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Guide to the city and county
of Perth

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Wm. Giffy
Glasgow

11 **GUIDE**

TO THE

CITY AND COUNTY

OF

PERTH. //

PERTH:

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PERTH

AND ITS ENVIRONS.

PERTH has been the scene of so many interesting passsages in Scottish story, fictitious as well as true, and is surrounded by so many natural beauties, that there are few Towns in Scotland where a visiter has so many questions to put, and where less satisfactory answers can be given. This deficiency of information arises, partly from there being very few vestiges remaining of the once celebrated Buildings with which it was adorned, and from the notices respecting them lying scattered over local works, which are either scarce or too bulky for a tourist. The object of these few pages is to offer a brief Sketch of the things most worthy of, or most likely to engage, the attention of a Stranger.

In fulfilment of this duty, we meet the visiter at the spot to which Sir Walter Scott has given celebrity by a *mistake*—that is, at the part of the road from Edinburgh to Perth,

where it begins to descend through a ravine in the Ochills towards Strathearn. Formerly the road was carried right over the hill, introducing the traveller, at the summit to a scene so magnificent, that the "Chronicler of the Canon-gate" paused while approaching, in imagination, to Perth, to review the early impressions it produced upon his mind. Unfortunately he introduced one object *not* discernible from that point—the City of Perth itself—which has brought great discredit on all Mr Croftangry's reminiscences of the Fair City. But the truth is, that the City *is* to be seen from an eminence more to the westward, over which the footpath still leads to the parish Church of Dron, and Crystal might have taken this path with his pony!—or more probably, the recollection of the view from the Ochills had been mixed up, in the mind of the author, with a scene in many respects similar, in which Perth is the principal object, and which presents itself, a mile or two in advance, where the road passes over another height before descending into the valley of the Tay. At all events, the view from the Ochills, with or without Perth, will more than repay the trouble of leaving the present Carriage Road for a short distance. Strathearn, with its winding stream, from the point where it leaves the hills until it joins the Tay—the valley of the Tay itself, and the broad expanse of the Frith, form a fine contrast to the magnificent range of the Grampians with which the champagne is encircled. Dundee is seen in the extreme distance eastward; Abernethy with its *uncertain* Tower, lies almost at the foot of the Spectator: the site of Forteviot, another and an earlier capital of the Pictish Kingdom, is a little to the westward; and, on the opposite bank, the woods of Dupplin give interest and richness to the view.

In crossing Strathearn we pass, at the Bridge, a favourite Hotel resorted to, during the summer months, by *buwans*

of the medicinal wells of Pitkeathly—which are about a mile to the westward and where also there are comfortable Lodging Houses. The Moncreiffe property, overshadowed by the height of Moncreiffe or Moredun (the view from which Pennant has so eulogised) lies on the right, and Perth comes in sight as the Road surmounts the western shoulder of that hill. It was at this point the Roman legions are said to have exclaimed that they beheld another Campus Martius on the banks of another Tiber. Whatever resemblance there may ever have been, it is paying the view from Moncreiffe a poor compliment *now* to liken it to the vicinity of Rome :—But it is not our purpose to linger at spots which demand admiration rather than description.

The Depot built for Prisoners of War, is on the right as you approach the Town. This extensive range of buildings which has of late years been let as Granaries, is now proposed to be converted into a General Penitentiary for the Eastern District of Scotland. The approach, through the South Inch, (the green on which the Ancient game of Archery was, and the modern game of Golf is practised,) is perhaps not excelled by the entrance to any modern small Town. Cromwell defaced it by a deep ditch and fortification, when he *besieged* the Town (if such a phrase can be applied to sitting before it for a few days and scolding it into submission) but all traces of the stagnant ditch are now filled up. The works, nearly on the same site, constructed to supply the Town with wholesome water, form in every respect a much more pleasing object. A curious circumstance attended the construction of these works. It was proposed to bring water from the Tay, filtered through the gravel of which the bed of the River is composed.—But however close to the river the pits for this purpose were dug, the River water was never obtained—it was always found impregnated with mineral substances similar

to the wells of *hard* water in the Town. As it thus appeared, that, on every part of the bank, the pressure of the water from the surrounding heights was greater than that of the River, expectation of obtaining water from the Tay was almost renounced, when it occurred to Dr Anderson (under whose Superintendence the works were afterwards so successfully constructed,) to attempt the excavation within the course of the River. Accordingly, a well was dug at the northern extremity of the large Island which divides the stream, immediately below the Town. Into this well the River water flowed freely, purified by its passage through the gravel. From this well it is brought in pipes, under the bed of the River, to a reservoir on the western bank, where it is pumped up by Steam, into the large iron basin which forms the upper part of the circular edifice: and from this it is distributed by pipes through the Town.

The three principal Inns in Perth are the George, in George Street; the Salutation, in the South Street; and the Star, in Canal Street. The King's Arms, in the High Street, still a respectable Inn, was long the leading Hotel, and was the scene of many of the Erskine bon mots, which grace the pages of Joe Miller.

The City of Perth, as it now is, may be described in very few sentences, and the *sights* speedily enumerated. It is regularly built: the two principal streets, the High Street and the South Street running east and west at right angles to the river, intersected, by one principal thoroughfare, from south to north, through Princes Street, St John Street, and George Street, to the Bridge, and by the less frequented openings of the Watergate, the Skinnergate, the Kirkgate and the Meal Vennel. The Terraces, Places and Crescents of the more modern part of the Town, look outwards south and north, on the south and north Inches.

By a spacious opening at the west side of the Town, through King's Street and Methven Street, communication is kept up between the south and north *new towns*, as well as by the thoroughfares already mentioned. The part of the Town lying westward of King Street and Methven Street, is chiefly inhabited by the manufacturing part of the population.

The old buildings and sites worthy of a visit, are 1st, St John's Church, St John Street, where the first Reformation Sermon was preached by John Knox ; 2d, the Old Jail, foot of the High Street, being part of the Chapel of the Virgin, and having an octagonal tower, the lower part of which is ancient, and evidently of Cochrane's design, the favourite and the architect of Robert III ; 3d, a stair which formed part of the Old *Palace* at the foot of the High Street, directly opposite the Chapel of the Virgin (between these two buildings the East Port or Gate leading to the bridge stood, the bridge being then in a line with the High Street ;) 4th, St Bartholomew's Chapel in Curfew Row, where the niche is still to be seen in which the Curfew bell hung, (*the Row* itself is also classic ground, being the supposed *locale* of Simon Glover's House ;) 5th, the Glover's Yard adjoining, in which the scene of the conflict with Bonthron is laid, and in which there are still sufficient vestiges of walls and towers to show that it was formerly the court yard of the Castle ; these, and a few old houses in the Skinnergate, Watergate and some of the *vennels*, are the only vestiges of antiquity in a town which, before the Reformation, boasted a greater number of really fine and interesting buildings than any place of the same extent in Scotland. Besides those of a religious character, there was the Parliament House of Scotland, which stood about the middle of the High Street, on the ground now occupied by a large new house in front and a Mason

Lodge in the back area : and Gowrie House, on the ground now occupied by the County buildings and Jail. The removal of Gowrie House, connected as it was with one of the darkest problems of Scottish history, is perhaps more to be regretted than that of any other of the buildings.

The more modern places of note and resort are only the County Buildings at the south end of the Watergate, the Portico of which is chaste and beautiful, the Hall elegant, and the Portraits it contains, (two of them by Sir Thomas Lawrence and one by Pickersgill,) interesting alike to the patriot, the soldier, the statesman and the artist ; and the Museum of the Literary and Antiquarian Society, in George Street—the oldest provincial institution of the kind and probably the first in celebrity. A person is in attendance for some hours every day, during the summer months for the purpose of showing it to strangers, who are admitted, gratis. In ascending to the Museum, the visiter passes through the gallery of the Public Library, an institution as creditable as it is useful to the Town. To those two places of resort we may add the Coffee or News Room in George Street, similar to such establishments in other Towns. The Hall appropriated to it belonged formerly to the Glover Incorporation, who have now retired to a humbler apartment in an adjoining house. If the stranger have time to enquire for the Deacon or other office-bearers of that Incorporation, so as to gain admittance to their archives, he will find a few reliques of considerable antiquity and interest. Amongst them are the equipment of one of the Morrice Dancers who figured before James VI.—an ancient banner—and some curious records and papers.—The Incorporation should be solicited to deposit the first of these, in particular, in the Antiquarian Museum, for it ought to be more accessible, being, probably, one of the most entire suits now in existence.

There is a neat Theatre at the north side of the town, but it is seldom open, and thinly attended.

The Public Schools are in a large building in the centre of Rose Terrace, but there is nothing in the internal arrangements to repay a visit.

The Churches of the Establishment are the Old Church St. John's, (divided into three, having 3 parishes connected with them,) St. Paul's at the west end of the High Street, and St. Leonard's (lately a chapel of ease) in King's Street. There is a Catholic Chapel near the Barracks, and a number of Dissenting Chapels and Meeting Houses in various parts of the Town.

Perth was, during the last century a place of considerable trade. The staple was linen, and the intercourse with Flanders and other continental countries was neither trifling nor unfrequent. During the war, the cotton superseded the linen trade. This was carried on through Glasgow, so that, as Perth only received the overflowings of the Glasgow market, it was the first place in the country to feel the depression to which the trade was subject, and from 1812 to 1815 it suffered so severely that there was scarcely a house of respectability which did not either withdraw from business or suspend payment. Perth has never altogether recovered from the blow it then received, although there are several establishments which carry on both the linen and cotton manufactures, as extensively as hand-loom weaving will probably admit of. A large spinning and weaving mill has lately been erected on one of the waterfalls in the Town, and the command of water is so great, both in the Town and in the neighbourhood, that there is little doubt, in the minds of the best informed practical men, that were its capabilities fully brought into operation Perth would become one of the busiest manufacturing towns in Scotland. Although, however, there are not in the town itself, many

manufactories worthy of notice, there are some in the neighbourhood which furnish employment to a very numerous population: among these, the most important are the Mills at Stanley, where cotton-spinning and power-loom weaving are carried on to a great extent by a Glasgow house; the Bleachfields of Luncarty and Stormontfield on the Tay; Huntingtower, Tulloch, Pitcairnfield, and Cromwell Park, on the Almond; power-looms for linen at Woodend, on the Almond, and the Printfields of Tulloch and Ruthven on an aqueduct from the same river. The works of Stanley, Cromwell Park and Woodend are beautifully situated.

It would not be right to omit from these brief *Memorabilia* some notice of the *Perth Press*, which at one period attained considerable celebrity. This it gained chiefly through the enterprise of the late Mr James Morison, whose editions, particularly of the Scottish Poets and some of the Latin Classics, would have done honour even to the presses of the English universities. From no one press, even in the Metropolis, were so many volumes annually sent out as were published in Perth during the period from 1780 to 1800. But the facilities of communication throughout the country, which about this time began to be more *centralized*, gave great advantages to Edinburgh and Glasgow over all provincial towns as publishing stations; and with the *Encyclopædia Perthensis*, too extensive for any station but the Metropolis, the business of publishing declined in Perth. It once or twice attempted to look up afterwards, but without success; and, although the same names continue to appear on such brochures as the present, and have not left *the corner* from which most of the literature of Scotland at one time proceeded, it has been in the humbler but perhaps more useful departments of the same profession that they have endeavoured to excel.

About the time general publishing was almost extinct (1809), a Newspaper was established under the title of the Perth Courier. Its politics were conservative, but generally distinguished by a tone of great moderation. The prevalence of whig opinions led to the establishment, at Coupar-Angus, of the Strathmore Journal in 1829, which soon afterwards was removed to Perth. Local, as well as general causes, produced, in 1835, a third paper under the title of the Constitutional; and a fourth, the Chronicle, under the auspices of the voluntary party, followed in the subsequent year. The advertising part of the community groan under these inflictions.

We have now the pleasure of accompanying our readers to a few of the many places in the neighbourhood of Perth, distinguished in history or marked by scenery of uncommon beauty.

Kinfauns, Scone, Dupplin, and Invermay, are the most celebrated and most generally visited. The visiter whose time is limited, in most cases selects Scone if his taste be antiquarian—or strolls to the top of the hill of Kinnoull or the summit of Moredun if his pursuit be scenery. In the latter case we advise him to choose *the face* of the hill of Kinnoull just *under* the crags instead of *above* them.—The view is nearly the same, but the heightening of its effect by the crags as a foreground, no words can describe. We do not hesitate to say that the walk just under the rocks of Kinnoull, at the top of the wooded slope is not merely the finest thing about Perth or its neighbourhood, but excels in magnificence any view in Britain. So little is it known that scarcely any stranger is ever directed to it.

Scone is easy of access when the noble proprietor's family is not resident there. Cards of admission are granted by Mr Condie of Blackfriars House. The visitors are gene-

rally disappointed on finding so few vestiges of royalty in the "*Palace of Scone*." But, so far as modern elegance can atone for the want of antiquarian relics, they will not regret visiting it; and there are a few curiosities, some of them ascribed to Queen Mary—and a monument to the memory of Sir David Murray of tolerable workmanship.

Kinfauns Castle, also, is only to be seen in the absence of Lord Gray, but it is rarely a stranger is disappointed in finding access to the numberless objects of interest which are contained within the walls of this splendid seat. Having been at one time the property of Longueville, the friend of Wallace, there is much of the interest of antiquity attaches to it, and a sword is preserved there, which has stronger probabilities in its favour of having belonged to Wallace than any other piece of armour ascribed to that patriot.

Independently of the stores of objects of vertu collected within its walls by Lord Gray, the situation of the Castle, the combination of scenery around, above and below, and the exquisite manner in which art has elicited the beauties of nature throughout all the grounds, make Kinfauns Castle confessedly a place to which it is impossible to do any kind of justice by any description.

Dupplin Castle, the seat of the Earl of Kinnoull, lies to the west of Perth, about five miles distant. The Wood around it is magnificent—the Library distinguished by the variety and rarity of the editions of the Classics—and many of the Paintings fine.

Opposite Dupplin, on the banks of the May, a small tributary stream to the Earn, "the birks of Invermay" nestle amidst romantic rocks. Mr Belshes, the proprietor, has laid out the grounds with great taste. Several handsome seats adorn the valley of the Earn, which stretches out between Dupplin and Invermay.

There is a beautiful ride around Moncreiffe hill, leaving the Edinburgh road a little beyond the first toll-bar south of Perth—skirting the base of the hill to the eastward—and returning to the Edinburgh road through the rich plantations of Moncreiffe at the Bridge of Earn.

The excursion to Lynedoch is a favourite one, to which the Grave of Bessy Bell and Mary Gray chiefly lends celebrity. The banks of the Almond, near which Lord Lynedoch's Cottage stands, are gently picturesque.

The admirer of Paintings should not neglect to visit Rossie Priory, Lord Kinnaird's residence, about 12 miles from Perth, in the Carse of Gowrie; and if an antiquary, he will esteem himself fortunate if he can obtain at Fingask Castle, in that neighbourhood, the seat of Sir P. Murray Threipland, Bart., a sight of Queen Mary's Watch (cut out of a Cairngorm,) and a peep at a collection of *Jacobite Relics*, perhaps the most extensive and interesting in Scotland.

PERTH TO DUNKELD.

FIFTEEN MILES.

THE road from Perth to Dunkeld, which, formerly inter-
 sected the North Inch, now forms a continuation of Atholl^{Miles from Perth}
 Street, and turns northward at the Barracks, passing, with-
 in short distance of each other, Few House, *l.* the old castle $\frac{1}{2}$
 of Balhousie, *r.* and Tulloch Printfield, *l.* having a favorable $1\frac{1}{2}$
 view of the palace and plantations of Scone on the right,
 until it crosses the Almond, by an elegant bridge of modern $2\frac{1}{2}$
 erection, near its junction with the Tay.* For some dis-
 tance afterwards it lies through plantations, chiefly on the
 estate of Lord Lynedoch, through the openings of which,
 to the eastward, the Tay is seen gliding along amongst pre-
 cipitous but richly clothed banks. In the midst of these
 plantations a cross road leads off *l.* to Redgorton and
 Moneydie, which continues through Glenshee to Strath-
 bran, and a few paces farther, one on the right conducts to
 the Luncarty Bleachfield, (the scene of a celebrated engage- 4
 ment with the Danes,) the northern extremity of which
 comes in sight as we approach the village of Downhill, 5
 where the road crosses the Schochie and the Ordie, for-
 merly two excellent trouting streams, which here unite

* On the north bank of the Almond, at its junction with the Tay, stood, until within these few years, a village called Bertha and supposed by some to have been the ruins of ancient Perth, which on the authority of Boethius stood at the confluence of the Tay and Almond. The public records, however, it is now universally agreed, establish the fact of Perth having always occupied its present site.

Miles
from
Perth

and supply part of the water power of that extensive establishment. The banks of the Tay here appear again in view, and a road strikes off to the road towards Stanley,* and the Linn of Campsie. Soon after, a road on the left leads to Tulliebelton,† and on the farm of Loak may be seen, on the same side, the ruins of the residence of the Nairne family, whose estates were forfeited at the time of the rebellion. In the parish of Moneydie, some miles to the westward, there are also said to be the ruins of a palace of the Bishops of Dunkeld, part of a Roman Camp, still visible, and Druidical remains abound in the circumjacent parishes.

8 $\frac{3}{4}$ A mile farther brings us to Auchtergaven, now more commonly called Bankfoot, a thriving village, with a Parish Church, of creditable appearance; the superior is Mr Wylie of Airleywright, whose residence is on the adjoining rising ground on the left.

* The country for some miles now has a bleak aspect, until we reach Stair-dam, where formerly a small lake, formed at the foot of BIRNAM, discharged itself. Here the valley of the Tay opens upon the view, with the turrets of *Murthly Castle*,‡ a modern building of the Elizabethan style of architecture appearing among the wood on its right bank.

* The populous village of Stanley (which owes its existence and prosperity to the vicinity of extensive cotton spinning works,) is 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Perth, on high ground near the Tay, which for some miles in this vicinity, dashes over its rocky course with boisterous rapidity, between banks of highly picturesque beauty. At two places not far distant from each other, Campsie, (celebrated in the "Fair Maid") and the Thistle-Brig, ledges of rocks shoot across the channel of the river, through which the stream appears to have wrought its way, in the latter instance effectually, but at Campsie so strong a breastwork has been opposed to the current, that the whole waters of the river have to force through an opening in the rocks, of only a few feet in width. It is observable, that the rocks at the Thistle-Brig form part of a vertical stratum, which runs parallel to the Grampians from the west to the east coast of Scotland.

† Robertson, Esq.

‡ Stewart, Bart.

Beyond, in the east, lie the rich district of the Stormont and part of the great valley of Strathmore, with *Dunsinnan*, distant about 12 miles in a south-easterly direction. The base of Birnam, here broken into knolls and crags through which the road proceeds, is, for some distance, covered with wood, too young to have formed any part of that mighty forest which furnished boughs for the fulfilment of the "Weird Sisters" prophecy. Towards the left, on the acclivity, may be discerned the vestiges of a round fort, called "Court Hill," and "Duncan's Hill," where that unfortunate monarch held his court.

The whole range of the Grampians contains few scenes 13 so pre-eminently beautiful, as is viewed from this road, when, the northern side of Birnam gained, the "Gates of the Mountains" and the pass which they appear to guard, are fully disclosed. The pass at Dunkeld has often and justly been said to present, in miniature, every fine feature of the highland glens; with the addition of a river, not narrow, turbulent, and rapid, but broad, slow and majestic, conveying ideas of quietness and repose, deeply in unison with the ruins of the Cathedral on its banks, to which the handsome modern bridge forms a striking contrast.— Since the erection of this bridge, Dunkeld has lost much of its sequestered character, but it has participated largely in the advantages resulting thereby to the country around.

Before crossing the bridge, the road passes the village and Church of Little Dunkeld, where it branches off in 14 two directions. On the western line about half a mile farther, is the village of Invar, where there is an Inn; about the same distance beyond it, the road again divides, that to the west leads to Strathbraan and joins the Crieff and Taybridge road near Amulree, the other follows the windings of the Tay and proceeds by its banks to Strathtay, Aberfeldy, and Kenmore.

Dunkeld boasts of two Hotels, unsurpassed by any in the county in the elegance and extent of their accommodation. The first object of interest, to a traveller, is the Cathedral, which at one period must have been a majestic building, but is now in a state of great dilapidation. The choir however has been fitted up for the Parish Church; and the Tower, the two side Aisles and the Nave, are tolerably entire, and present a mixture of Gothic and Saxon architecture. The choir was built by Bishop Sinclair, and finished in 1350. Part of the Arms of his family are on the top of the eastern gable, and a marble slab which lay on his grave, is upon the floor in front of the Duke of Atholl's seat. In the south wall are the Arms of Bishop A. Lindsay, and an inscription bearing that the roof had been put upon the choir by Stewart of Ladywell, (1600.) A monument to the memory of the "Wolf of Badenoch," Alexander Earl of Buchan and Badenoch, which stood originally in the middle of the choir, is now placed at the north side of the door which leads to the nave. It was this Earl who destroyed the magnificent Cathedral of Elgin, for which offence he was compelled by his father to appear barefoot, and in sackcloth, at the door of the Blackfriars Church in Perth, and afterwards promise indemnification at the high altar. The Chapter house on the north side of the choir, is the burial place of the family of Atholl, and contains several elegant marble monuments.

The simplicity and elegance of the architecture in the body of the Cathedral are very striking—the pillars are round supporting two ranges of arches, and an equal number of windows above, terminated at the west end by a window, the ruins of which testify its former magnificence. The tower or steeple, stands at the west end of the north aisle. It was built about 1500, and is now

chiefly remarkable for a rent about an inch and a half in width from top to bottom, of the date of which no account can be found.*

Retracing our steps to the end of the Bridge, and turning northward by a new and handsome street, we arrive at a very elegant Lodge and Gateway built by the late Duke of Atholl. This was intended as the entrance to a new Ducal residence worthy of the noble family of Atholl, and of the splendid scenery amidst which it was to be reared—when the death of his Grace put a stop to its erection, as it did also to all the improvements which had been going forward on the estate and on the town itself. The walks† are conducted through the shrubberies and gardens, by the banks of the Tay, and on Craigiebarns, (the hill on the north) with great taste, and elicit all the beauties of a scene, which presents a richness of wood rarely found so united to the boldest features of nature. The view from the top of Craigiebarns is particularly grand, commanding the valley below, the chain of lochs between Dunkeld and Blairgowrie, ridges of the Grampians stretching off in all directions, and the low country as far south as Perth.

But the most interesting portion of the scenery around Dunkeld is on the banks of the Bran, a small river which

* Four Bells were placed in the tower by Bishop Brown. On one of them, since broken and recast, was this inscription:—

Dulce melos tango,
Sanctorum gaudia pango
Vox mea, vox grata
Quia tempora signo grata.

Constantine King of the Picts, is said to have built the first church here in 815. The first ecclesiastical dignity was that of an Abbot, who, along with his brethren, was subject to the Abbot of Iona. At a later period Dunkeld became a Bishopric, and the lands between it and Logierait are still called the Bishopric. In the order given at the time of the Reformation with regard to this edifice, it was specified.—“Faill not, bot ze tak guid heyd that neither the dasks, windocks nor durris be ony ways hurt or broken—either glassin wark or iron wark.”

† Including those on the west side of the water, the walks throughout the pleasure grounds of Dunkeld are not less than 100 miles in extent.

takes its rise in Loch Freuchie, near Amulree, and running eastward falls into the Tay at Invar. The guides, who are found with facility, conduct from Invar, by a path on the banks of the stream, through woods and shrubberies, in which there is enough of ornament to improve, without destroying the natural ruggedness and solitariness of the scene. This path, leaving the banks of the river for a short time, conducts into a small Temple, named from a painting opposite the entrance, *Ossian's Hall*. This picture, gliding into the wall, discloses a scene, more gaily beautiful than the Song of Ossian e'er described—the waters of the Bran forced into a narrow channel, and precipitated over a broken mass of rock of considerable height, are reflected from numerous mirrors, imbossed into the walls of the hall—the effect of the whole being heightened by the river, which is seen for a considerable distance, dashing over its rocky course through trees of the most varied foliage. From a bridge thrown across the deep chasm the fall may be seen to great advantage.*

The walk may be continued in a circuitous direction on the face of Craig Vinean, regaining Invar by a path on the banks of the Tay. Upon this walk rustic seats are erected at short intervals, and views of the surrounding country judiciously thrown open. Should the traveller be tempted to prolong his perambulation to the top of the hill, he will not be disappointed in commanding a noble prospect. Here he may, in some measure, estimate the vast extent of ground planted in this quarter, by the late noble proprietor,

* Another fall, more majestic, but devoid of the rich scenery around Ossian's Hall, may be seen at the RUMBLING BRIG, a mile and a half farther up the river; where the water precipitates itself into a narrow chasm in the rock of immense depth, producing the sound which has given name to the place.

Two miles farther up Strathbran, on the south bank of the river opposite Ballinloan, are the ruins of Trochrie, once the residence of the noble family of Gowrie.

though far short of what has been done at Blair, most of which was until of late years barren and profitless moor land. From these plantations the larches have been cut, which have been used with so much success in ship-building.

DUNKELD TO BLAIR IN ATHOLE,

TWENTY MILES.

FROM the Bridge of Dunkeld the road goes in a westerly ^{Miles} direction for a short distance, passing the gateway to Dun-^{from}Perth keld House, then after turning the western point of Craiggiebarns, in the midst of some of the finest scenery, it continues due north to Dowally, close to the Tay, through a 20 fine valley which gradually opens on the right, while on the left the hills thickly wooded and enlivened at the base by several seats, approach close to the river; and the mountains of Athole break the horizon on the north. The mansions which occur in rapid succession on the west bank of the river beyond Dowally, and which will be more particularly noticed on the road to Kenmore, are Dalguise* 21 Glenalbert,* Kincragie,† and Kinnaird.† Among the hills, 22 about two miles to the eastward, is loch Ordie, a piece of water about a mile in circumference, celebrated for its trout.

About 8 miles from Dunkeld the Tay and Tummel join their waters—the former although the larger body apparently losing itself in the latter, which retains its course

* Stewart, Esq. † Duke of Atholl.

Miles^{from} southward. On the neck of land formed by the junction of the rivers, the village of Logierait is situated. This was one of the places where the chief of the Atholl family held his Court of Justice, while the heritable jurisdictions continued: in which meetings, much pomp and circumstance were often displayed. From the hill behind Logierait, the view, commanding the straths of Tay and Tummel, is very grand. At the eastern point of this hill opposite the small village of Ballinluig,* through which our road passes, an open Terrace spreads out, on which may be distinctly traced, vestiges of a fort built by Robert the Second, after he gave up the government into the hands of the Duke of Albany. The fosse is still tolerably entire. The access to it through a narrow pass is called, Glach-n'-ri or King's Way. A field near the castle is styled Cannon-brae, upon which a battery is said to have been placed.

Our road continues on the right bank of the Tummel, and about two miles brings us to the comfortable Inn of 25½ Moulinearn. Nearly opposite, on the west side of the river, is Kilhangie,† and a mile farther, on the right, Bal- 26½ youkan.‡ Another mile brings us between Donavours§ on the right and Dunfallandy|| on the western bank of the Tummel, where the main body of the river taking a sudden turn, forms the first of a series of small Islands, which will have been observed to succeed one another, with little interruption, from within a few miles of Dunkeld. Edra- 27½ dour,¶ considerably up the hill on the right, is the next 28½ mansion within view. We now reach Pitlochry where a road strikes off through glen Briarachan, and Strathardle,**

* From Ballinluig a road leads off to Logierait by the Boat of Tummel, and winds round the face of the Terrace above mentioned.

† Duke of Atholl. ‡ Butter, Esq. § M'Farlane. || Fergusson. ¶ Duke of Atholl.

** Moulin is upon this road, 1½ miles from Pitlochry. Close on the village, are Balledmund, (Fergusson, Esq.) and Balnakeilly, (Stewart,

This thriving village has of late years become a somewhat ^{Miles from} formidable rival to Dunkeld as a market place of supply ^{Perth} for the extensive districts of Atholl and Badenoch. An excellent Inn has lately been built by Mr Butter, the chief proprietor of the village, and no less than two bank agencies are to be found in the place. The number of licensed distilleries which have now been established in this neighbourhood, once so famed for smuggling, has tended much to increase the traffic as well as general prosperity of the district.

A short way beyond Pitlochry a new bridge has been thrown across the Tummel, by which Strath-Tummel may be entered, although the more usual communication with that beautiful valley strikes off the north road, at the Bridge of Garry about two miles farther on. The hills now begin again to converge, forming one of the most romantic spots within the confines of the Grampians, and encircling Cluny* on the west, and Faskally† on the east side of the 30 river: while the Tummel, following the example of the Tay, is lost to our view among the western hills, out of which it falls into the Garry above Faskally. As the Garry, before its junction with the Tummel, runs for some distance in the same direction we have pursued since leaving Dowally, the Tay and Tummel seem, to travellers on the road to Athole, rather tributary streams to the Garry, and only entitled to bring their names along with them into it on account of the magnitude of their offerings.

Esq.) In the neighbourhood stand the ruins of the Castle of Moulin, supposed to have belonged to the Cummins, Earls of Atholl and Badenoch. It appears to have been a square with round turrets at the corners, and stood within a small lake now drained. Tradition asserts, that a number of persons, infected with the plague, were shut up, and afterwards buried in it; and the country people reckon it unsafe to remove any of the stones on that account.

* Butter, Esq. † Butter, Esq.

Miles from Perth As we advance, the hills, and among them Benvracky conspicuous on the right, draw closer and closer on every side, until, at the PASS OF KILLIEKRANKIE, the river is lost among the overhanging rocks and woods, and there seems no outlet even for the narrow road. The summits of Beny-Gloe too rising in the north, contribute to the grandeur of a scene, which the name of CLAVERHOUSE has stamped with the deepest interest. The spot where he fell is marked by a rude stone, in the field immediately in front of Urrard.†

The pass is about half a mile in length, beyond it the valley opens to the north, and its richly cultivated and well wooded aspect, indicates the approach to Blair. As
 32 we pass onwards, the properties of Old Faskally,* Urrard†
 33 succeed each other on the right: Killiekrankie Cottage, ‡
 34 Strathgarry, § Sheirglass, || on the left: and a mile farther, Lude, ¶ charmingly situate among thick plantations on the southern extremity of the hills which bound Glen-Tilt on the east; a new and elegant mansion house is now being erected on this interesting property.—The road descends into this valley, and crossing the Tilt,
 36 enters the plantations of Blair, the Village of which, about a mile onwards, is on a rising ground, overlooking a fine plain at the junction of the Tilt and Garry. Before passing the Bridge of Tilt, there is a neatly built Village and Inn, opposite which, towards Lude, is an Episcopal Chapel, beautifully situated. Beyond the Bridge is the Parish Church of Blair, and a little farther onward is the new Inn of Blair. These two Inns are not surpassed for comfort or elegance by any Country Inn in Scotland, and the tourist therefore frequently passes days or weeks in

* Butter, Esq. † Stewart Alston, Esq. ‡ Mrs Hay.

§ Stewart, Esq. || Capt. M'Inroy. ¶ J. M'Inroy, Esq.

them, at the same time enjoying the fishing in the numerous neighbouring lochs and streams.

On the plain abovementioned, is situated Athole House, formerly Blair Castle, the elegant seat of Lord Glenlyon. This Castle was occupied by Montrose in 1647, stormed by Cromwell's forces, in 1653, and besieged in 1745.— Since that period the lofty turrets and battlements have been taken away, the building otherwise reduced in height and completely repaired. The situation of this edifice, seen from the opposite bank of the Garry, having the lofty and beautiful outline of the mountains of Ben-y-Gloe in the back-ground, is very fine. “The bold and dreary heights of Ben-y-Gloe, contrasted by the verdant and woody sides of the inferior ridges, the luxuriance of the contiguous valley, together with the peculiar beauty and magnificence of the prospect down the banks of the Garry, where Ben Vracky rises pre-eminent among the eastern barriers near to the pass at Killiekrankie, are circumstances which conspire to render the vicinity of Blair highly interesting in point of scenery. The remote summit of Shichallien also is seen from the pleasure grounds, overtopping the southern ridges; and to the west of Ben-y-Gloe rise some of the lofty eminences of Athole forest, among which the distant height of Ben Dearg appears further to the north.”

But the fame of this neighbourhood arises from its waterfalls: of these, a stream called the Burn of Fender, on the Lude estate, displays some beautiful specimens, and is generally the first place the stranger is conducted to by the guides. In following them we retrace our steps to the Bridge of Tilt. The Fender descends from the skirt of Ben-y-Gloe, and discharges its waters over a rocky chasm into the Tilt; the cascade formed by the burn of Fender at their union, may be seen from a walk on the opposite

side of the stream into which it falls, gracing the declivity of the dell : the path from whence it is viewed, passes under the beetling rocks, whose summits are crowned with trees, and their bases laved by the impetuous surges of the Tilt. The banks of the Tilt retain the same romantic character to a considerable distance above its confluence with the burn of Fender, and are accessible on both sides by walks and a bridge. The next fall of Fender, though less lofty, is equally beautiful ; and, from the disposition of its accompaniments, is more advantageously displayed ; the main of water bursts through a deep ravine, hung with trees and underwood ; whilst a small portion of the stream is divided from the principal fall, and, spouting over the edge of a high rock, is frittered into a shower of foam as it descends. But the upper fall of Fender is most worthy of attention, for the concentrated beauty of the scene, and its chaste conformity to picturesque composition. The stream precipitates itself down the steep declivity of a rocky chasm, forming a most graceful cascade, which contrasts its vivid whiteness with the deep hue of the precipice : the rich colour of the rocks, and impending foliage, with their pleasing arrangement and combination, must place this little spot high in the estimation of the landscape-painter.

The laudable emulation which stimulates Highland proprietors, to render the romantic scenery of their estates easy of access, has here been exerted for the advantage of strangers, in the paths that conduct them to those stations best calculated to display scenes which are at the present subject of description. After a continuance of dry weather, the stream which forms these cascades, is too scanty to admit of their being seen to advantage. On this walk stands Tulchan a very large Cairn. A line of smaller heaps of this nature lay between this place and Lude House, but the plough has obliterated the greater part of them.

Returning to Glen-Tilt, a walk conducts for some distance by the banks of the current, and a good road succeeds for several miles. " This valley is narrow, and of great length, bounded on each side by the steep flanks of lofty hills. The road which penetrates it displays, with full effect, the Alpine terrors of the scene. Passing in its early stages from Blair along the brink of awful precipices with the furious river roaring below, it afterwards descends into the deep recesses of the glen ; and, leaving its woody defiles, skirts the bases of the mountains, whose steep acclivities are covered with grass. Ben-y-Gloe forms the southern screen of the valley ; but the summits of that mountain disappear, as we here approach its lower regions. Glen Tilt was famous in ancient times for producing the most hardy warriors. Its pasturage is at present allotted by the Lord Glenlyon, to his red deer, of which great herds are often seen on the adjacent hills. His Lordship has a hunting lodge in the middle of the glen, beyond which the scenery becomes gradually more rude and dreary, and the road is soon inaccessible to carriages. Pursuing our solitary course through this wild region, where the broad surfaces of the mountains present nothing to relieve the eye of the travellers except where a stream occasionally furrows their sides, we are impressed with the air of solemn grandeur which pervades the scene, till, suddenly, the attention is arrested by the jaws of a ravine, which opens immediately on the left, and a little river, called the Tarf, is precipitated over two ledges of rock : the recess through which the water finds its way, is dark and gloomy, and the rugged masses on each side, confine the attention to a scene worthy the pencil of Salvator ; they tower with rude sublimity over the den, and some scanty brushwood finds nutriment in their crevices. Of all the romantic scenes which are presented to those who explore the recesses of

the Grampians, none will be found to possess a more picturesque combination of wild and characteristic beauty than this; it is in every respect faultless, and even the rude path by which we gain access to it, is a more suitable introduction than any that art could contrive."

Before the Tilt joins the Tarf near the Falls of Piltarf, the rivulet of Loghaine flows into it, from the small lake of Loch Loch, upon which are the vestiges of the Palace in which the Earl of Atholl entertained King James V, his mother, the French Ambassador, &c. in a most sumptuous manner, and which he burnt to the ground so soon as the King left it.

On the south side of Ben-y-gloe* are to be seen traces of a semi-circular work fronting the west, through which a rill runs, the banks of which are well secured by large stones. Whether it was built by the Danes, or by a party of Baliol's friends after their defeat by Robert Bruce, is uncertain. To the eastward of this camp along Glengirnaig are pieces of a road called Rod-na-banrinn, or the Queen's Road, and on the top of the rock of Fonn-a-vice, a large round Castle of considerable strength.

On the east bank of the Tilt is Clach-ghil-Aindreas, or Cemetery of Andrew's Disciple, where many bones have been found entire in coffins composed of flags. To the southward of this, stood Andrewsmas market, now held at Perth—and about a quarter of a mile higher, one of the round castles or towers, of frequent occurrence in the highlands; half-a-mile from which stands Tom-a-vuir, or hill of the fort, on a steep bank of the river.

In Glen Tilt a valuable quarry of Green Marble was sometime ago opened, from which a considerable number

* Ben-y-gloe, from the summit of which the Atlantic and the German Ocean are visible, is 3724 above the level of the sea.

of blocks have been sent to various parts of the Kingdom. The County Hall of Perth contained a fine specimen of it, which has been lately removed to the Public Library Room.

The celebrated Falls of the Bruar are four miles to the westward of Blair, a gun-shot off the road to Inverness. “The scenery of these falls is of a more rude and savage character than that on the Fender. The lower fall of Bruar bursts in a collected body beneath a bridge, and after rushing through a rock, perforated by its own force, sinks into a deep pool. The upper fall is divided into three parts, whose united height is estimated at 200 feet. There is a bridge of grotesque construction across the chasm, and on the southern banks of the river, a favourable station occurs for contemplating this tremendous cataract, the lower division of which forms an unbroken and perpendicular descent of 100 feet. Notwithstanding the grandeur of these falls, which of themselves may justly claim a rank amongst the finest objects of the kind in this part of the Highlands, it is to be regretted, that the pale hue and bleak aspect of the adjacent rocks, detract much from the picturesque qualities of the scenery in which they form so striking a feature. Art has been called in to aid the deficiencies of nature, and the banks of the Bruar have within these few years been planted by their noble proprietor:—thus complying with the request of the celebrated Ayrshire Bard, whose poetical petition to the Duke of Atholl, in favour of this forlorn and naked dell is well known. But the influence of time is yet wanted to fulfil the wishes of the poet; and it is to be feared, that the more fastidious eye of the painter must wait still longer, before it can be reconciled to the decorations of the savage yet romantic scene.—From the rocky heights above the falls, we obtain a view of the windings of the river Garry, through the rich vale

towards Blair, which appears bounded on the east by Ben Vracky. The Bruar springs from the skirts of Ben Dearg, or the Red Mountain, said to be so called from the colour of the granite of which it is composed: this hill rises to the height of 3550 feet above the level of the sea: it is situated amid the dreary wilds of Athole forest, and little diversified in form or surface. A rough and unfrequented track passes along the eastern banks of Bruar water, across the chases towards Inverness-shire."

Before leaving Blair Athole, it only remains for us to point out some Antiquities at Strathgroy, (Strath-dhruaidh, the valley of the Druids)—where a large stone was uncovered some years since, by Mr Stewart who farmed the property. This stone was six feet in length, set on end, supported by many others, and completely covered by the soil. About a furlong to the eastward of the spot where this was found, are two castles nearly round, having double and triple ditches; and several obelisks before the gates, in a zig-zag position. A short distance to the westward of the Castles, along the Garry, are some plains called, in the language of the country, King's Isle, Plain of the Running Horses, and Plain of Galloping or Horse Races. Half-a-mile above the Castles, and near Clunemore, is a sacrificing Carn, 60 paces in circumference, having several large flags on the top, and hard by are two obelisks, seemingly a part of a circle or temple. There were other Druidical remains to be found in this neighbourhood, till lately.

DISTRICT

OF

TUMMEL AND RANNOCH.

THIS valley extending from Loch-Lydoch on the borders of Argyleshire, to the junction of the Tummel and Garry, ^{Miles from} Perth, although containing scenery of the most romantic description, was formerly seldom visited by strangers, on account of the want of good roads in many parts. On foot, however, or on one of the small ponies accustomed to the uneven paths, an occasional traveller found his way; and brought back reports of scenes, which compensated, it was said, a thousand fold, the difficulty of access. These obstructions are now removed, and every facility that good roads can give, is now afforded the stranger; who ought not to leave the Highlands of Perthshire without visiting this district.

It may be entered by the following routes :—

From Strathtay, by the Military Road from Stirling to 31 Inverness; from Aberfeldy (31 miles from Perth) by Dull, Cosheville, Inchgarth, and Kinardochy to the Bridge of 45 Tummel, 14 miles. Or,

Miles
from
Perth From Blair in Athole, by Strowan Point,* Glen Eroch-
kie and Auchleeks† and joining the Military Road at Tri-
nafour,‡ to the Bridge of Tummel, 16 miles. Or by a cross
road from Blair by Invervack, Loch Vack, Portnellan, and
46 Bohaly to Bridge of Tummel, 10 miles.

But to see it to the greatest advantage, the valley should be entered at the east end, by the road leading from the bridge at the Pass of Killiekrankie, through the property of Bonskeid.§ Here, amongst the wildest of Highland scenery, are some fine falls of the Tummel. It was from this spot MRS BRUNTON wrote, when she characterized the Tummel as the “Stream of her affection—of all rivers the most truly Highland—impetuous, melancholy, and romantic—foaming among the fragments that have fallen from mountains which seem to have been cleft for its course.” The falls of the Tummel are approached, from this side, by a walk leading from near the Bridge of Garry, through the woods of Coilbrochan. When the river is full these falls are very grand, but the scenery is at all times highly picturesque, with what the same authoress, we have already referred to, terms “the noblest mountain view imaginable.”

A little beyond Bonskied House is the entrance to the
33 vale of Fincastle, so called, it is supposed, from the number of castles which stood there in days of yore,—as the ruins of no less than *fifteen* of them testify. About a mile within the valley stands the House of Fincastle.||

Proceeding westward along the banks of the Tummel to the Loch of that name, we pass on the left Allean,|| and on the opposite bank of the Tummel, Duntaulich,¶ situated on the eastern extremity of the Loch. The road

* Duke of Atholl. † Robertson, Esq.

‡ At Trinafour, the mountain of Ben Chulach, forms a fine object in the midst of a combination of wild and lofty scenery.

§ Sandeman, Esq. || Colquhoun, Esq. ¶ Butter, Esq.

immediately afterwards winds up a gentle eminence, the summit of which gained, one of the noblest prospects bursts upon the eye, imagination can paint. Loch Tummel with its indented capes and bays, lies stretched before us—its banks rising gently from the water, terminate in broad and undulating ridges, the skirts of which are verdant and pleasingly varied with wood:—the heights of Farragon and the huge bulk of Schihallien rise in full view on the opposite shore, the latter an oblong convex heap, swelling with ponderous majesty over the landscape:—below it a richly wooded vale carries the eye far to the westward, where the mountains of Rannoch are seen retiring to form a capacious basin for the loch, which is only hid from sight by the rising grounds of Mount Alexander:—the hills of Lochaber bound the view to the west:—forming altogether, a scene beyond the power of the pen or pencil. The view to the eastward also, from the same point, although less extensive, is no less noble and romantic. At the lower end of the lake are two little wooded eminences, past these the river Tummel glides with an almost imperceptible current, very different from the character it afterwards assumes. Here there is a ferry, by which access can be had to the south side of the loch, where there is also a road* little inferior to that on the north. To the spectator on the south shore, the pointed summit of Ben Vracky forms a pleasing feature, rising above the nearer ridges in the N.E.

¶ The north road continues by the side of the Loch, passing near its western extremity, Portnellan,† and about four miles farther crosses the military road to Inverness, at the Bridge of Tummel, where there is a good Inn and

* This road proceeding westward joins the military road, two miles from Bridge of Tummel passing Foss, (Stewart Menzies, Esq.) and Kynachan; and forms part of the line, before referred to, which leaves the great north road at Pitlochry.

† M'Diarmid, Esq.

Miles
from
Perth

capital river fishing. The mountain scenery is bold and lofty ; and as we proceed, beyond the bridge of Tummel, the river displays a rapid and ample volume ; but the face of the country is gloomy and mountainous, till we come
46 to *Dun Alister*, the Mount Alexander, the residence of the Robertsons of Struan. Here the poet of that name found a safe retreat, when his loyalty to his exiled prince made it dangerous for him to appear abroad ; and here, it appears, he composed several of his poetical pieces. The present proprietor has built an elegant mansion, somewhat in the style of our ancient castles ; and it seems well adapted to the grandeur of the surrounding scenery. The *Mons Alexander* is a wooded eminence ; at the foot of which, in the garden, the *Argentine*,* a small mineral spring, celebrated by Struan, is situated. On the opposite side of the river, Crossmount† is in sight. As we proceed westward, Loch Rannoch soon comes within view ; nor is it easy to conceive a more beautiful sheet of water, with all the grandeur of mountain perspective, bays and promontories : leading the eye, till lost in the extreme distance, where the mountains of Breadalbane and Argyle hide their aerial summits in the clouds that rise from the western ocean. Before arriving at Kinloch Rannoch, a village at the eastern point of the lake, we pass Loch Garry‡ and on the opposite bank of the Tummel, Temper,§ Dalchosnie,|| and Innerhadden ;¶ the latter beautifully situate, at the foot of a perpendicular and highly romantic rock,** overlooking Loch Rannoch.

From the east end of Loch-Rannoch, we command two fine prospects. The one, in looking westward, presents

* Or silver well, from the bright appearance of the sand at its bottom.

† Stewart, Esq.

‡ Col. M'Donald. § Stewart. || Col. M'Donald. ¶ Mrs Stewart.

** On this rock is the burying place of the Innerhadden family.

the lake with its wooded slopes, behind which the mountain eminences are seen retiring on either hand, in forms truly grand and picturesque. The deep shade of the pine forest on the southern shore, is finely contrasted with the lively and variegated tints of the birch wood on the opposite sides of the lake. Looking eastward, the village of Kinloch forms the fore-ground; in the rear, on the left hand, a bold precipice, down which rushes an impetuous torrent, in two streams, which join at the base. *Shi-chailon* towers to the right; and opposite to it Mount Alexander is seen in the distance. The scene altogether is magnificent.

Shichallien though occupying a central position in the Grampian range, seems insulated with respect to the surrounding mountains. Its name is by some supposed to intimate, that it was the reputed haunt of the gigantic fairy called Cailin, an important personage in Highland mythology; but other etymologists imagine the name to be a corruption of *Sior ghaillionn*, which signifies perpetual storm.

According to General Roy, the height of this mountain above the level of the sea is 3281 feet; whilst other authorities suppose it considerably to exceed that altitude, making it about 3500, and terminating in a point at the west end, which is the highest part of the ridge.* Its sides are very steep, and the surface rocky: but in no part distinguished by any great precipice or chasm. The northern declivity is defaced by shingles of a cold gray colour, which give the hill a bleak and forbidding aspect, and, in conjunction with its natural sterility, give some semblance for the name *Sior ghaillionn*. Viewed from the north, the contour also of Shichallien is heavy and unpleasing; but seen at a dis-

* This hill presents the phenomenon of a copious spring of water, on the very summit of the mountain.

Miles
from
Perth tance from the east or west, it assumes the figure of a regular cone, and seems to rise like a huge pyramid, above the more gentle declivities of the neighbouring mountains.

The Scottish king, Robert Bruce, with his queen and a few adherents, when the fortunes of that monarch were at a low ebb, during the destructive wars of Edward the First, had a retreat near the southern skirts of Shichallien; and in more recent days this mountain has acquired celebrity, from having been the station selected by the late astronomer royal, Dr Maskelyne, to make observations on its power in attracting a pendulum, which it was found considerably to affect.

On the north shore of Loch Rannoch, towards its lower extremity, is an extensive wood of large and aged birches; and further to the west, the skirts of the hills are cultivated. On its southern banks is the most extensive natural forest of firs now to be found in Perthshire; and, though the falls of timber here have lately been very considerable, there still remain many noble specimens of that picturesque tree.

The Loch is about twelve miles in length, and abounds with fine char and bull-trouts, some of them weigh upwards of twenty pounds. There are two good Inns at Kinloch, and a tolerable one at the head of the Loch. There is a good road on both sides of it; that on the south side which conducts through the forest above mentioned, passes Carie.* In this forest the heath grows to an uncommon size. At the west end are situated the Barracks,† and Rannoch
69 Lodge.‡ Here Loch Rannoch receives the superfluous waters of Loch Lydoch and Loch Eoch from the west,§ and Loch Ericht from the north. The shores of the former

* General Robertson of Strowan.

† Gen. Robertson.

‡ Sir Neil Menzies, Bart.

§ There is at present no carriage road to either of these Lochs, but one to the west, to communicate with the military road at King's house, is in contemplation.

lake are flat and marshy, and its western extremity opens ^{Miles from Perth} towards a dreary region beyond the limits of the Grampian range: but the scenery of Loch Ericht is of a bolder character, though wild, desolate, and almost inaccessible: its banks rise with a steep ascent from the water, and their rocky acclivities are occasionally varied with brushwood. Loch Ericht extends northward at least sixteen miles, yet its shores on both sides are totally uncultivated. On its banks towards the head of the lake is a solitary shooting lodge, which with the hut of a shepherd, are the only human habitations in this desert tract. The abrupt flank of Ben Auler rises from the western margin of the water, and 75 terminates in a broad horizontal summit, being the most lofty eminence that appears from the shores of this lake. A cave near the south end of Loch Ericht was one of the retreats where Charles Stuart concealed himself from pursuit of the king's forces, after the failure of his attempt on the British crown.

DUNKELD

TO

KENMORE, KILLIN, AND TYNDRUM.

OUR road lies for some miles through the district of country described; page 23, but on the west bank of the Tay. The village of Invar, the birth place and residence of NIEL 16 Gow, has been already noticed. Nothing can exceed the beauty of the ride through the pass immediately beyond, with Craig Vignian on the left, and Craigiebarns on the

Miles from Perth right, reflected in the dark waters of the Tay. The traveller ought not to neglect to look back towards the spires of the Cathedral,—the view has few equals in the Highlands. In the part of the country now entered upon, the views are so diversified, the seats of the nobility and gentry so various and elegant, that our notices must be much more brief than many of them are entitled to.

On entering the *haugh* or level country, the road passes 18½ the village of Dalmarnock. Beyond this Dalguise* and 20 Glenalbert† succeed within a short distance of each other. The latter is the scene of Mrs Brunton's popular novel of "Self Control," and there is a small waterfall nigh this, which travellers should not omit visiting. Another mile, 21 and Kincraigie‡ is on the left. On the right, a mile farther, is Kinnaird, in a very romantic situation, where a stupendous rock almost overhangs the mansion. Here there are a fountain and the ruins of a chapel, both dedicated to St Lawrence. Logierait (v. p. 23) is now on the opposite bank of the river, and the Tay takes a westerly course in which it is followed by our road. We now enter the valley of Strathtay, strictly so called, which from Logierait to Taymouth is about 15 miles long, and six broad to the summits of the hills on each side, and is unquestionably the finest and richest strath in the highlands. The mountain ranges on each side, generally rise with a steep ascent from the depth of the valley; and a considerable portion of the breadth consists of an extensive level plain of haugh or holmland of the richest quality, in a state of high cultivation, fertility and abundance. "The largest of British Rivers," in the language of a late traveller, "rolls slow and majestic through the middle of this beautiful valley, at times fully seen shining between its flat banks among the

* Stuart, Esq.

† Stuart, Esq.

‡ Duke of Atholl.

broad fields, and sometimes almost hid by the trees, through the openings of which the evanescent motion of its waters occasionally appears. Craggy rocks, dark heath, green pasture and thick woods, are intermingled on the higher portion of the ridges, from which the mountain torrents are sometimes seen, at other times heard, among the woods, dashing to the valley below—a valley uniting in itself all that is gay and delightful, in the richest roughness and fertility of the finest plain country, with every thing that is sublime and impressive in Highland scenery.”

On entering this valley we pass Balnaguard, while Eas- 24
 tertyre,* Ballechin,† and Pitnacree,‡ are observable on
 the northern bank of the river in rapid succession. Pass-
 ing through the villages of Sketewen, Mill of Grandtully 25
 and Cosheville, a few miles bring us to the venerable towers
 of Grandtully Castle,§ having within that short distance 27
 passed within view of Findynate,|| Clochfoldich,¶ Der- 29
 culich,** Edradynate,†† and Cluny.‡‡ The number of
 spacious and handsome mansion houses give great interest
 to this part of the country, and their situations generally
 combine every effect that can possibly result from the union
 of rich, picturesque and magnificent scenery. While here
 we ought not to omit noticing an establishment of high im-
 portance to the whole district. By a deed of mortification
 executed by a Mr Daniel Stewart, who amassed a consi-
 derable fortune in one of the Indies, a *Free School* has been
 established under the inspection of Mr Stewart of Dercu-
 lich, and the neighbouring proprietors, at which some
 hundred poor children are taught the elementary branches
 of education.

* Mrs M'Glashan. † Stewart, Esq. ‡ Menzies, Esq.

§ Stewart, Bart. || Dr Stewart ¶ Bowie Campbell, Esq.

** Stewart, Esq. †† Capt. Robertson. ‡‡ Hepburn, Esq.

Miles
from
Perth

Two miles beyond Grandtully, Killiechassie * fronts us on the northern bank, and as we enter the thriving and populous village of Aberfeldy, Castle Menzies† and the village of Weem appear on the same line, under a very precipitous and romantic rock. There is also a very good carriage road on the northern bank of the river, from Logierait to Weem, which road passes through Aberfeldy, and is carried across the river by a very handsome bridge. The King's forces crossed the bridge, and encamped a night on the meadow immediately west from it, when on their march to meet the Prince's army at Culloden. The Inn at Weem is very good. A little to the westward of the village the road passes Castle Menzies, the seat of the chief of the clan of that name, which from its structure and height has an air of great antiquity and grandeur, while the white *harling* gives it in some degree the appearance of a modern mansion. A spacious semi-circular park, containing a variety of stately timber, incloses the house in front, and on the east and west side, immediately behind it on the north, the craggy ledge rises to a great height, covered with wood and grass on the summit, and in the crevices where any soil can rest. In this rock there is a curious cave from which the adjoining village takes its name. Two miles beyond Castle Menzies on the military road, the village of Dull is situated, which although now only a small group of cottages, once enjoyed, if tradition speaks correctly, a *College* before that of St Andrew's was founded. One thing is certain, that the College of St Andrew's pays annually a certain quantity of barley to the minister of the parish of Dull.

Two miles beyond Dull, the road turns northward at Cosheville, (v. p. 33) and a branch strikes off westward to

* Flemying, Esq. † Menzies, Bart.

Fortingal and Glenlyon. This narrow valley extends up-^{Miles from Perth}wards of 30 miles from west to east, containing about 30 villages, and is tolerably cultivated. It is however very narrow, and in many places the sun is not seen for three or four months in winter. Two miles from Cosheville the road passes Drumaharry, (Sir Archibald Campbell, Bart.) and a mile farther enters the village of Fortingal, to which Glenlyon house (Campbell, Esq.) adjoins. There is here the remains of a Roman Camp, the farthest inland of any in the country, of which the pretorium is tolerably entire, and various Roman relics have frequently been found here. There is in the churchyard of Fortingal an old yew tree 52 feet round. Opposite Fortingal is Duneaves, and 4 miles beyond it Chesthill, (Stewart Menzies, Esq.), and 11 miles farther up the glen, and almost at the extreme point of cultivation Meggarnie, (Menzies, Esq.) At Invervuick, 9 miles from Fortingal, there is a road across the country to Loch Rannoch.

Aberfeldy, or its neighbourhood, is indebted to the pen 34 of Burns for its celebrity, and no traveller would neglect to visit the "Birks and falls of Aberfeldy," or more properly of Moness,* the name of the estate and adjoining mansion. The walls are very steep, and the access to the falls, in many places, not very easy, but the labour will be amply compensated by the extreme beauty of the scenery.

"The braes ascend like lofty wa's,
The foaming stream deep roaring fa's,
O'erhang wi' fragrant spreading shaws,
The birks of Aberfeldy."

The hoary cliffs are crowned wi' flowers;
White o'er the linns the burnie pours,
And rising weets wi' misty showers,
The birks of Aberfeldy."

* Marquis of Breadalbane.

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Here the property of the Marquis of Breadalbane commences, which extends westward to the Atlantic. Here also the southern side of the valley begins to assume a richer and more improved appearance. Two miles beyond Aberfeldie, the house of Bolfracks appears close to the road on the left in the midst of a dark grove. Its figure which is that of a cross, combined with its romantic seclusion, gives it a solemn and picturesque effect. The lofty and spreading trees on each side, especially the oak, intermingle their branches above the traveller's head, and almost darken the road at mid-day. Through openings which occur at intervals, the whole face of the southern hills appears covered to the summit with wood, with occasional openings, where cattle are seen feeding on the richest grass. The plain of Appin spreads wide below with its majestic river, and the northern ridge rises high on the right, with its verdant declivity and craggy summit. Drummond Hill, completely covered with wood, swells aloft in the middle of the plain, marking the western limit of the wide valley, and overhanging the rapid flow of the Lyon, which, rushing from the North under the brow of the hill, there mingles its waters with the Tay. The broad side of that hill then forms the northern boundary of the narrower, but still spacious vale of the Ballach. Near the entrance into that

36 vale, on the left of the road, is one of those circles of stones, set on end, so common throughout the highlands, that have caused so much controversy among the learned. If not of Druidical origin, this circle was, at all events, well situated for the observance of the rites of the worshippers in groves. From this point the road, ascending a little to the left, conducts the traveller through a thick wood of tall and spreading trees. A fine arch of blue stone, with turrets, marks a principal approach to the expected Castle. The noise of a mountain torrent is heard as we proceed

through the gloom of the thick forest, and the avenue of trees continues so long and impervious, that the disappointed traveller begins to experience no very favourable feeling towards those who seem to have had a satisfaction in shutting him out from a prospect, which promised to be so well worthy of admiration. The noise of the stream increases—the light is let in upon the road over the tops of the trees—the desired opening appears—and the scene bursts at once in full splendour on the astonished spectator who may well doubt whether any sovereign Prince in the world can boast a place of residence so superbly situated as that of the “Lord of the Ballach.”

Leaving this, we again plunge into the gloom of the wood, from which we emerge as we descend towards Kenmore; and Loch Tay opens upon our view. Whoever sees, and can feel the beauty and grandeur of this scene, will think the description of it by Burns, far from one of the happiest efforts of that poet.

Kenmore is a very neatly built village, with an excellent Inn, on the parlour wall of which, Burns wrote the lines to which we allude. It stands on an isthmus projecting into the eastern extremity of the Loch, from which point, an elegant bridge, of five arches, is thrown over the Tay. Near this is a small island covered with trees, where stands the ruins of a priory, which was dependent on the religious establishment of Scone. It was founded in 1122 by Alexander I. King of Scotland, who interred here his Queen Sybella, the natural daughter of Henry I. of England. At his own death, the priory was more liberally endowed, that the monks might say mass for the repose of his soul as well as that of his queen.*

* The last residents here were three Nuns who came out only once in the year, to a market in Kenmore. Hence that Fair is still called “Fiell na m’ban naomb,” or Holy Women’s Market. The nuns who

Taymouth Castle, of which a glimpse was obtained from the road, has been lately rebuilt by the noble proprietor, and is altogether a very splendid building. To the grandeur of the situation no pen can do justice. The interior of the edifice is fitted up in a style worthy of the proprietor, and many of the paintings will be found deserving the attention of the connoisseur.

The view of Loch Tay from the pleasure grounds, is simple and grand; the prospect extends up a winding bay screened on each side by steep hills. On the north, rises Ben Lawers, which forms a noble feature in the scene, and bounds the prospect with great dignity. The Loch is about 15 miles in length, and from 1 to 2 broad. Its depth is computed from 5 to 100 fathoms.

Crossing the Tay by the Bridge at Kenmore; there is a pleasant ride for two or three miles to the ruins of the ancient Castle of Comrie, near the junction of the Lyon with the Tay. There used to be a bridge at this place, but it fell some years ago, and it is now in contemplation to build a new one, after the erection of which, this side of the Tay will form as fine a drive as that opposite. The pedestrian will also find on the top of Drummond Hill, from which there is a most magnificent view, the ruins of a prodigious fortification (Dun Mac Tuail) of which we have no satisfactory account. This hill and fort overlook on the north the valley described on page 43 where there are other forts of a similar nature, and a Roman Camp.

From Kenmore there are two roads to Killin, one on each side of the Loch. The north road is considered the best for carriages, and altogether is the preferable one, for although the admirers of mountain scenery may miss on

lived here obtained a grant from King William, which the Marquis of Breadalbane still retains, of fishing in the Loch every day of the year, and it is remarkable, that clean fish are got in Loch Tay at all seasons.

the north road some fine views of Ben Lawers, along the side of which it lies, that line has the advantage of passing along much higher ground, and commanding a much more extensive prospect towards the west and south. The chief enducement to the south road is the fall of Acharan, which descends from the southern hills, into the Lake, about two miles from Kenmore. If the other road is chosen, that fall ought at all events to be visited before leaving Kenmore. The fall is of great height and has a noble appearance, especially when swollen by rain. A Hermitage, with most appropriate decorations, has been reared on the opposite rocks, and gives a very imposing effect to the whole scene.

The Traveller by the north road, after passing the bridge, turns westward above a fine garden between the lake and the road, and about four miles to the westward, emerges from the thick woods which form the rich ornament of the vale of the Ballach,* and nearly the same distance farther brings him to the foot of Ben Lawers.

About half-way between Kenmore and Killin, another circle of stones adjoins the road; and there are ruins of circular forts from 30 to 40 feet in diameter, and 5 feet high, along the whole of this tract.

Approaching nearer Killin, the country again assumes its richly clothed and cultivated aspect. Trees of a large size begin to line the road. Glenlochry lies before us, with its outlet, towards the lake, covered with wood, from the top of the highest hill in the north, to the summit of Finglarig on the south. In the forest above is heard the roar of the river which emerges from the wood at a bridge from whence it winds through the plain below, until it meets the waters of the Dochart, with which it enters the lake at the southern point of its western extremity.

* Where a road strikes off to Glenlyon.

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from
Perth Finlarig* is another seat of the Marquis of Breadalbane, inferior only to Taymouth in point of situation. Near the junction of the rivers with the Loch, Achmore, another seat of the same nobleman may be observed, which was his usual residence when Earl of Ormelie: and a short distance to the westward, Kinnell, lately the seat of M'Nab of M'-Nab, but now belonging to the Marquis of Breadalbane.

56 Killin is a large straggling village, inhabited by mechanics, and shop keepers. The inn, like that of Kenmore, is good, and affords every accommodation for travellers.† The village is situated on the banks of the Dochart, which is here divided by ledges of rocks, through which the river rushes with tremendous violence, and is formed into two courses, each crossed by a bridge. On the island formed by the rocks, and covered with majestic pine trees, is seen the arched gateway of the burial place of the M'Nabs. The view in every direction is very grand, and there is no point from which Ben Lawers is seen to more advantage.

From the Bridge the road goes westward along the banks of the Dochart. This, notwithstanding the height of the situation, is still a fine valley, with a considerable proportion of haugh lands. About midway between Killin and Loch Dochart the valley opens, and in a recess is seen

* At the base of Finlarig stand the ruins of the seat of the Campbells, the Knights of Glenurquhay. In this neighbourhood a bloody battle was fought between the Campbells and the M'Donalds, who had made a plundering incursion into the country. The Campbells were assembled, at a christening entertainment, in the great hall of Finlarig. Informed that the M'Donalds were returning with their booty over the adjacent hill of Strone Clachan, the Campbells arose from the festive table, ascended the hill, and attacked the plunderers. The Campbells were overpowered by numbers, and twenty of them slain. Intelligence of their defeat was conveyed to their chief at Ballach, or Taymouth, who, sending a reinforcement, the ravagers were pursued, overtaken, defeated, and deprived of their booty.

† The fishery upon the Loch affords employment to some of the poor about Killin. Here are fine charr and perches. They are either taken by the net, or with the rod and the line. Some valuable fish abound here, not found in the loch at Kenmore.

the spacious mansion of Achlyne. Here we join the ^{Miles from} road to Fort William, which is seen winding through Glen ^{Pertly} Ogle, towards Lochearnhead. Soon after passing Achlyne the valley contracts again, and a few miles farther we arrive at the Loch of Dochart, where the scene is very imposing. On the one hand is the Loch, extended in all its waving beauty; on the other hand, precipitous and craggy rocks ascend immediately over the road, while the immense mountain of Benmore, the summit of which had occasionally been observed from afar, rises nobly from the southern bank of the loch. Here and there vast fragments which have tumbled from the impending rocks, thinly covered with moss, are scattered along. In Loch Dochart is a floating islet, a curiosity generally recommended to the attention of strangers. This isle is fifty-one feet long, and twenty-nine in breadth; it appears to have been gradually formed by the natural intermixture of the roots and stems of water-plants. It moves before the wind, and may be pushed about with poles. When the cattle go unsuspectingly to pasture upon it, they are in danger of being conveyed round the loch. Upon an island in Loch-Dochart, there is also an ancient castle, overhung by a huge promontory, the whole embowered with wood, so as to have a most romantic appearance. This castle was anciently the dwelling of the Knights of Lochow, and must have been of considerable strength, from the surrounding lake; but it was once stormed by the M'Gregors, in the midst of a frosty winter, by a well contrived stratagem, worthy of the ferocity and rudeness of the times. The lake being frozen, they formed fascines of straw, boughs of trees, and brushwood, with which they made a stout breast-work. This they pushed before them along the smooth surface of the

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Perth ice, and being sufficiently defended by it from the missile
weapons discharged by the besieged, they approached the
castle, scaled the walls, and overpowered the inhabitants,
who trusted more to the situation of the place than to the
number and valour of those who defended it.

We now enter Strath-Fillan, from which a road strikes
off to the left through Glen-Falloch to Loch-Lomond,
(about six miles distant) at the small village of Crien-la-
69 rich; where there is a very good Inn. Opposite is the
house of Innerchagirnny,* and two miles beyond we are
upon superstitious, if not classic, ground—the church of
71 St Fillan fronting us on the north. The celebrated Pool
of St Fillan is formed by an eddy in the river, here known
by the name of the Etterick.† There is here also a Bell
of singularly rare qualities.‡

Two miles onwards, as we approach a narrow opening
on the northwest, through which the road escapes from
73 this mountain enclosure, Tyndrum and its good Inn are
seen. Tyndrum is esteemed the most elevated part of this
district of country. Near this is the source of the Tay,
running east, and whose course is crossed on the side of the
hill by a stream which falls into Loch Awe, in the west.

* Campbell, Esq.

† In 1354, King Robert Bruce established here a Priory of Canons
regular, which, with all the revenues at the dissolution of the religious
houses in Scotland, came into the possession of the Breadalbane family.
This priory was dedicated to St Fillan, who converted, it was said, the
ancient inhabitants of these hills and valleys, to Christianity; and upon
the same authority, endowed the sacred pool with miraculous remedial
qualities. Immersion in the pool is esteemed a sovereign remedy in
curing madness, and about two hundred lunatics are annually brought
to try the benefit of its salutary influences.

‡ The Bell belonging to the chapel of St Fillan, was in high repute
among that Saint's votaries in the olden time. It usually lay on a grave
stone in the church yard. The person who was undergoing the cure,
after being immersed, and remaining all night in the chapel, had this
bell put upon his head with great solemnity. It was supposed that if
stolen, it would extricate itself out of the thief's hands and return
home ringing all the way. But since some degree of scepticism has
crept in on this head, the Bell has been carefully locked up. It seems
to be of some mixed metal, about a foot high.

At some small distance below lies the plain of Dalry, which has been conjectured to derive its name from the ancient Dalriads, the first Scottish inhabitants of these places.—Tyndrum is about 12 miles from Dalmally, and there is a lead mine in the neighbourhood, which used to be worked to a considerable extent, but which has of late years been almost entirely deserted. Near the surface these veins are tolerably rich, but they become poorer in proportion as they sink deep.

The road through Glencoe to Fortwilliam is on the right as we leave Tyndrum, and a branch on the left to Inverary by Glenorchy. They enter Argyleshire about a mile onwards.

DUNKELD TO BLAIRGOWRIE.

THIS is a short but very delightful excursion from Dunkeld, which any traveller, who has a day to spare, ought not to overlook.

The road skirts the Grampians, which rise in very varied and beautiful forms on the north, while the country opens on the south to the fertile vale of the Stormont, and a chain of small Lochs, some of them of peculiar beauty, occur at short intervals upon the whole ride. The first, the Loch of Lows, is about two miles from Dunkeld, at the verge of the Duke of Atholl's plantations, through which the road winds.

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Perth Butterstone Loch is about a mile beyond, between which and the Loch of Cluny, is a distance of about 4 miles. At the east end of the latter Forneth* is delightfully situated, overlooking the water and the Castle of Cluny, belonging to the Earl of Airlie, which is built on an island near the south bank of the Loch. This is one of the houses that claims the honour of being the birth place of the Admirable Crichton. The island on which this castle is built seems to be chiefly, if not altogether, artificial. A place of worship dedicated to St. Catharine, is said to have been here situated, previous to the building of the present house, which is of considerable antiquity, having been erected about the beginning of the 16th century by Bishop Brown, and was one of his chief seats.

23 Another mile conducts us within view of the Loch of Marlie, which is overlooked on the north by Kinloch,† and behind it towards the hills, Baleid,‡ while the house and grounds of Marlie§ skirt it on the east. Near the latter, is the village church, and inn of Marlie, or Kinloch. As the inn here offers the temptations of neatness, comfort, and good cheer, in a greater degree than many in the country, and there is capital sport often to be had on the Lochs, this spot is often visited by parties from Perth, Dunkeld, and other neighbouring towns, who make it their headquarters, during the summer months. We shall therefore point out some of those places in the neighbourhood, deserving a visit. To the westward is the ride we have already described from Dunkeld:—towards the east is Blairgowrie and the country around, which we proceed to notice:—On the north are many excellent walks among the hills, particularly to the top of Benachally, which commands a most extensive view:—And on the south, the ride towards Perth by the

* Binnie, Esq. † Hog, Esq. ‡ Campbell, Esq. § Farquharson, Esq.

Bridge of Isla, which we shall afterwards point out. The following ride presents many objects of interest. Proceeding southward by the Perth Road for four miles, we arrive at Meikleour, the seat of Count Flahault, who by his marriage with Miss Mercer, inherits the fine estates of the Al-die family. This beautiful residence is situated near the confluence of the Tay and Isla, upon a triangular plain, once fortified by the Romans, by a wall and deep trench, extending between the two rivers, of which some traces are still discoverable. On the opposite bank of the Tay, are the village of Kinclaven, and the ruins of its castle most romantically situated on the estate of Baldarthy, (Richardson, Esq.) Retracing our road a short distance and turning westward through little Ferdlie, three miles bring us to Delvin, the seat of Sir John M. M'Kenzie, Bart. Delvin is chiefly remarkable, as being situated on the plain of Inchtuthel, elevated about 30 feet above the surrounding country. Its appearance and name favour the supposition that it had formerly been surrounded by the Tay. From Delvin we may return to Marlie, directly north by Gourdie, (Kinloch, Esq.)—or, going two miles west from Delvin, return north by Snaigow (Keay, Esq.) and join the road from Dunkeld to Blairgowrie at Forneth:—or, proceed westward by the banks of the Tay to Dunkeld, which is seven miles from Delvin. By choosing this road, we pass 3 miles from Delvin, through the village of Cluny, where the antiquary may stop to inspect a very curious font in the parish church. A mile beyond this, Stenton (Beaumont, Esq.) is on the left; and on the opposite bank of the Tay, Murthly Castle (v.p. 18.) The top of the craig at Stenton bears evident marks of having been fortified, and is called Kemp's hold. Three miles farther takes us to Dunkeld.

Marlie is just two miles from Blairgowrie, and we pass on the right Ardblair,* and just before entering the village, Newton.†

Blairgowrie does not contain much to interest the Traveller. There are in the neighbourhood however several Druidical circles. Behind the manse there is a circular mound, or mote-hill, where it is said Earl Gowrie held his regality courts. It consists of strata of earth and gravel, and is surrounded on the top with a *dyke* of the same materials.

Craighall,‡ two miles north from the village, is well deserving a visit. We cross the “ireful Ericht” by a handsome bridge, and continue on the east side of the river, having Parkhill§ on the right. Opposite, the stream of Lornty discharges itself into the Ericht, at a place worthy of attention for the curious appearance of the cuts and hollows made by the river in the craggy bed over which it flows, but more particularly for the obstruction there given to the progress of the salmon. A wooden frame is fixed in a channel so narrow that the sides are not above a yard and a half asunder, so that it is only in very high floods, that a few by desperate leaps can clear the obstruction. Soon again we arrive at another Bridge just below the house of Craighall, the situation of which is in the highest degree singular and romantic. The river here seems to have worn a narrow channel or chasm in the rocks to the depth of about 180 feet, forming the rocks into the most singular shapes and projections, on the point of one of which the house is situated, just above where the struggling stream is freed from its barriers. A balcony at one of the windows is placed directly over the deep and awful gulf, and it requires a head and eye of no ordinary

* Oliphant, Esq. † M'Pherson, Esq.
‡ Clerk Rattray, Esq. § Whitson, Esq.

steadiness to look either to the boiling cauldron below, or to follow the windings of the river, as it rolls down amongst the receding banks. From this the road proceeds northward by the Bridge of Cally, (3 miles) where there is an indifferent Inn, and where it divides; one branch leading through Glenshee to Aberdeenshire, and the other through Strathardle and Glenbriarachan to Blair Athole.—The former, three miles beyond Cally, passes Percy, (Farquharson, Esq.) and on the opposite bank of the Shee, King-seat, (Capt. Knight.) Three miles farther, Bleaton, (M'Pherson, Esq.) is on the opposite bank; a short distance beyond it Dalrulzian (Rattray, Esq.) on the right also, but on the west bank of the river. Soilzarie (Pennycook, Esq.) succeeds on the left, and a short distance farther, Glenkilry (Proctor, Esq.) on the right. Another six miles brings us opposite Renvey, (Kinloch, Esq.) and two miles farther to the Spittal of Glenshee, near which is Dalmunzie, (M'Intosh, Esq.) Six miles beyond the Spittal, through Glenbeg, the road enters Aberdeenshire.

The Strathardle road, which is in excellent condition, passes about two miles to the northward, Woodhill, (Fergusson, Esq.) a mile or two beyond this, it crosses a mountain stream, which constituted, till no very remote period, the boundary between the highland and lowland languages, manners and habits. The distinction as to dress is in a great measure gone, but it subsists in a great degree with respect to the language. Kirkmichael is eight miles from the bridge of Cally, and has two very tolerable Inns, much frequented in the season of grouse-shooting.

Two miles beyond Kirkmichael we pass Inverchroskie, (Stormont, Esq.) a mile farther, Dirnanean (Small, Esq.) A little beyond this, Glenferstate stretches northward, with the house of Glenferstate, (Lord Glenlyon,) about a mile up the Glen, and Straloch (Butter, Esq.) at the entrance

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Perth of it. On the opposite side of the Briarachan, beautifully situated, stands Kindrogan, (Small Keir, Esq.) Here the road turns westward through Glenbriarachan, and 11 miles beyond Kirkmichael, we enter Moulin, (v. p. 24) with the valley, watered by the Tummel, stretched before us.

PERTH TO CRIEFF.

IMMEDIATELY after leaving Perth, the tourist passes Tulloch Printfield, on the right hand, and a little farther on, a similar establishment at Ruthvenfield; betwixt which and the public road is situated the Old Castle of Huntingtower, which was formerly the residence of the Ruthven Family, whose name it originally bore. Soon after we 5 pass Methven Castle,* beyond which lies the thriving and 7 populous village of Methven.

Two miles beyond Methven we enter the plantations of 9 Balgowan;† the mansion-house of which, deserted for the 11 banks of the Almond, lies low in the valley. Gorthy‡ follows a short distance farther on, and a mile beyond we look down upon the ruins of the Abbey of Inchaffray.§

* Smythe, Esq. † Lord Lynedoch. ‡ Mercer, Esq.

§ At the twelfth mile stone, a road leads off on the left towards Inchaffray and Madderty. The Religious House at Inchaffray was founded in the year 1200, by Gilbert, Earl of Strathearn, and his Countess, Matilda. The ground it stands upon seems, from its name and situation, to have once been an island. In Latin it is styled, 'Insula Missarum,' or Island of Masses, a literal translation of Inchaffray. It was endowed with many privileges by David and Alexander, Kings of Scotland.—The few remains of this extensive building with 6 or 7 acres of land belong to the Earl of Kinnoull, who, in consequence is patron of about 12 parishes that formerly were attached to the Abbey. Muritius, Abbot of this place, was with Robert Bruce, at the Battle of Bannockburn.

On the right of the road, about 13 miles from Perth,^{Miles from Perth} the straggling village of Fowlis Wester is situated on the face of the hills, and a short distance farther on the left of the road a very handsome cast-iron gate-way leads to Abercairney,* one of the most beautiful residences in the county, and particularly deserving a visit. The house is new, built in the Gothic style, which is preserved throughout, both on the exterior and interior, in the most admirable manner. The Gallery is handsome, the Library and other rooms opening from it, are also fitted up with much taste, entirely from the directions of the proprietor. Near it is the mansion of Inchbrakie.†

Cultoquhey‡ is the next residence on the Crieff road. 15 Beyond it a little way a road leads off on the right to Monzie.§ In a few minutes Ferntower|| appears on the 16 face of a richly wooded hill, and a mile and a half farther brings us to Crieff.

This is a thriving little town in a charming country, with an excellent Inn, and which we propose to make the centre of several excursions through the fine scenery of the neighbourhood in various directions.

CRIEFF TO DUNBLANE, STIRLING, &c.

CROSSING the Earn, by the Bridge below Crieff, we soon arrive at the avenue leading up to Drummond Castle, the princely residence of the family of Perth, now the pro- 19½

* Moray, Esq. † Græme, Esq. ‡ Maxton, Esq.
 § Campbell, Esq. || Lady Baird.

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perty of Lord Willoughby de Eresby. There is every temptation that noble scenery, and the fine arts can offer, to induce the traveller to ascend this walk. A mile farther the road passes through the village of Muthil. On the left, a mile beyond Muthil, is Culdees Castle,* and a little to the eastward, Castle Strathallan. From this† the ride is rather uninteresting until we come in sight of Bra-co‡ among the hills on the right, and we now are in the centre of the Roman Camp at Ardoch, the most perfect in the kingdom and one of those which, in a particular manner lays claim to having been the scene of the battle between Agricola and Galgacus; its situation had many advantages, being on the N.W. side of a deep morass, and defended on the west by the water of Knaick.

26 The house of Ardoch§ is situated a little beyond the southern extremity of the Camp, near the bridge. One mile beyond this on crossing the Allan, Feddal|| is about a mile on the right, and near this, the road to Perth by Auchterarder branches off at the Inn of Greenloaning.—The road to Stirling continues from this in a tediously
30 direct line for four miles, passing the house of Glassin-
31 gall¶ on the right, and Kippendavie** on the left, near the western extremity of the Sheriff-Muir, where it diverges through several artificial looking hillocks into the ancient
32 city of Dunblane, famed for its Cathedral, its Library, its Planetree, and its Mineral Waters.

Dunblane was erected into a bishop's see in the reign of David I. but the records of the bishopric having been lost,

* Lord Strathallan.

† On the top of the hill, half-way betwixt Muthil and Ardoch on the right, observe Kemp's Castle, one of the stations connected with the Roman Camp at Ardoch, and on the left Orchill House, Lodge, and Plantations, (Graham, Esq.)

‡ Major Elliot. § Major Moray Stirling. || Dewar, Esq.
¶ Smith, Esq. ** Stirling, Esq.

it is uncertain when the Cathedral was built. The ruins attest its former magnificence, and shew it to have been 216 feet long, 76 broad and the height of the walls 50 feet. The choir is used for public worship.*

The Library was originally bequeathed by Archbishop Leighton, who died in 1684, and consisted of 1400 or 1500 printed volumes, besides many valuable and curious autograph M.S.S. several of which have been repeatedly printed. Leighton's executors expended nearly £200 on building the Library Room in Dunblane, besides giving a donation of £200 for the benefit of the Institution. It has since been increased by various extensive donations from different individuals; and now contains upwards of 3000 volumes in different languages, besides many curious books and manuscripts. The Subscription is 10s. 6d. per annum; but strangers are admitted readers for a few days.

There is a very remarkable Plane Tree on the estate of Kippenross, near the river Allan, which is approached by one of the many delightful walks that surround this ancient city on every side. The trunk of this tree is 13 feet in

* In clearing away lately some seats in the Cathedral, a remarkable sepulchral monument, whose existence had been forgotten, was uncovered. It represents a warrior and lady in full size and relief, incumbent, in the attitude of devotion. A clergyman of the neighbourhood whose antiquarian researches have thrown much light, not on the early history of this district alone, but of Scotland itself, has favoured us with the following conjectures respecting it.

"According to Fordun, who flourished about the middle of the fourteenth century, the Church of Dunblane had been rebuilt, in its present form, by Bishop Clemens about the middle of the thirteenth.—The tombstone alluded to, seems to correspond to the latter part of the last mentioned century, and had probably been deposited after the rebuilding of the Church. In 1271, according to the same historian, Malise, fifth Earl of Strathern, and grand-son of Gilbert, third Earl, and principal benefactor of the See of Dunblane, died in France, and was buried in Dunblane. He had espoused Maria daughter of Eugene of Ergadia, and widow of Leod last Norwegian Vice-Roy of Mann. This lady, as appears from Rymer, swore fealty to Edward of England at Perth in 1291, and, according to Prynne, a second time at Berwick in 1296, as "Maria Queen of Mann." It is hence most highly probable, that the sepulchral monument had been ordered by her, and that it represents herself and husband."

height, 27 in circumference at the ground, 30 where the branches spring, and 18 at the smallest part.

The mineral wells discovered some years ago at Cromlix, about a mile to the north of Dunblane, had become a fashionable place of resort by patients for health, and by parties for pleasure; but the number of visitors is now considerably diminished in consequence of its proximity to Airthrie, where a stronger mineral spring has lately been discovered. Visitors are accommodated with excellent lodgings at the Bridge of Allan, which is in the immediate vicinity of the wells, and in the midst of a fine and picturesque country.

Leaving Dunblane, we soon pass Kippenross* on the left. A mile farther the road leaves the county near the Bridge of Allan. Two miles beyond this, it skirts part of Clackmannanshire as it passes the gateway and pleasure-grounds of Aithry,† when turning westward and having the ruins of the ancient Abbey of Cambuskenneth on the left, it crosses the Forth and enters Stirling.

CRIEFF TO LOCHEARNHEAD.

A DELIGHTFUL ride through some of the finest combinations of rich and rugged scenery in the Highlands of Scotland. The vale of the Earn is crossed to the westward of Crieff by some romantic hillocks apparently “dropped in nature’s

* Stirling, Esq. † Sir Robert Abercromby, G.C.B.

careless haste,' which seem to terminate the strath.*—Round these, however, the road by the Bridge of Turret† winds, and after displaying the charms of Ochertyre,‡ again presents to the view of the traveller, the luxuriant valley with its slow winding river, now closed in on every side by mountains whose summits are lost in the clouds, and whose bases are covered with the richest plantations, surrounding the numerous seats of the proprietors. Of these, Clathic,§ Lawers,|| and Tomperran, occur in rapid succession before we reach the village of Comrie.

This neighbourhood has frequently been visited by smart shocks of earthquakes, accompanied by a noise resembling the rushing of water under ground. The damage, however, has never exceeded that of overturning trifling articles of household furniture. Within a mile of Comrie to the southward is situated the celebrated Roman Camp of Dalginross, supposed by Gordon and Chalmers, to have been the scene of the Battle between Galgacus and Agricola.

* On one of these, by the foot of which the Earn glides, (a walk to the top of which we earnestly recommend—the view from it cannot be excelled) are the traces of a building said to have been the Castle of the Earls of Strathearn.

† This mountain torrent comes out of a small loch among the hills, about five miles distant. The scenery of Glenturret is of the wildest nature, and there are some very beautiful falls above Ochertyre.

‡ Murray, Bart. The writer of "Letters for the post, not for the press," says of Ochertyre, "All we had ever seen of Highland scenery appeared here combined in one most delightful prospect, and softened into a lovely display of its finest features, as the eye rested on every beautiful and no one rude object. A lake lay below in the vale, under a fine hanging wood where the house was placed—the distance was bounded by very pointed mountains, and a fine river seemed to ornament the valley to their feet. In short I do not suppose such a complete and perfectly enchanting residence could be found any where; at least, after all we have seen we were struck dumb." On the banks of the lake above-mentioned there is a fine echo, produced, it is supposed, by the walls of an old ruinous Castle which stands on a gently rising ground running out into the middle of the water. On the estate of Ochertyre there were two Roman posts of Observation.

§ Colquhoun, Esq. || Mrs Williamson.

From Comrie the obelisk to the memory of the late Lord Melville is seen to great advantage. The situation is commanding, and the structure not inelegant, but it has been well remarked, that "the pyramids of Egypt would sink to insignificance at the base of Etna, and the monument to Lord Melville dwindles to a finger post among the mountains of Strathearn."

An impetuous torrent preceipitated into a dark gulf at at the foot of the rock on which this monument is seated, is called the Devil's Cauldron, a name which the roaring of the troubled water,—(of which a casual glimpse may be obtained, by bending over the frightful cavern)—the obscurity of the scene, and the sense of personal danger in the spectator, all conspire to render appropriate.

The eminence on which the monument is erected commands a magnificent and beautiful prospect of the rest of our ride to the westward. The river Earn flows through a level and fertile vale, which is occasionally intersected by wooded knolls; the hills rise suddenly on each side, contrasting their rocky bases with the soft verdure of the plain, and rearing their broken summits in very picturesque array; beyond these are seen the blue mountains of Loch Earn. This beautiful valley is penetrated by a good carriage road and loses nothing of its picturesque character by a closer survey. On entering it, Aberuchil* is seen on the left embosomed among the hills; the mountains which appeared at a distance to stretch in long and broken ridges, now assume a more insulated form: as we advance, the path is shaded by thriving plantations which bespeak the seat of opulence; and presently, where a verdant lawn opens to the right, is seen the romantic villa of Dunira. This sequestered spot was a favourite residence of the late Lord Melville, and is now the mansion of Sir David Dundas.

* Drummond, Esq.

Farther to the west, on the opposite side of the valley, rises a rough and pointed hill, the form of which is extremely beautiful, and near its base is a little detached eminence, whose rocky surface has a scanty mantle of grass. The first of these is called the Binean of Dundurn; the latter, Dun Fillan, from the saint of that name, who consecrated a spring that issued from the top of this hill, and conferred on it (according to vulgar belief) the miraculous property of healing various diseases. Since the Reformation, this spring is said to have retired in disgust, from its more exalted station, to the plain below, where its efficacious virtues are still dispensed on all faithful votaries. As we approach the head of the valley a more extensive prospect opens, and we soon gain the shore of Loch Earn. The mountains rise with a swift ascent from the water, and are clothed to a considerable height with wood: they present a surface less rocky, and do not pierce the sky in pointed pinnacles like those of the glen, but form lofty screens on each side of the lake, receding from the spectator in extended perspective. Near the foot of Loch Earn is a small island covered with wood, which forms a beautiful feature in the landscape. This island is said to be artificial, and was once the rendezvous of a desperate bandit, of the name of Neish, whose depredations filled the neighbouring district with dismay.*

Loch Earn is about seven miles in length, and its depth is said to be 100 fathoms: the surface is never known to

* The Laird of Macnab having sent his servants for provisions into the low country, they were waylaid on their return, and the booty carried off to the island by the robbers. Macnab being informed of this outrage, collected a party of his clan together, who brought a boat with them from Loch Tay, across the mountain to Loch Earn, and during the night made good their landing on the island. The robbers, being thrown into consternation by so unexpected an assault, became an easy prey to the victorious chieftain and his followers, who attacked their antagonists sword in hand, and soon routed them. In commemoration of this event, the descendants of Macnab have a Neish's head for the family crest, with the motto "Dread naught."

freeze. A road traverses each side of the lake; and on both the chief characteristic of the scenery is simplicity. To the traveller on its northern shore, this quality seems to prevail to a degree almost monotonous; until he arrives about half-way up the margin, where the southern mountain screen appears to open, and the space beyond is filled by the huge mass of Ben Vorlich. This mountain is situated in the parish of Balquhider, and forms one of the southern range of the Grampian mountains. The name (Ben Vorlich, i. e. the Great Mountain of the Lake) is indicative of its situation and altitude; it being the most elevated point contiguous to Loch Earn, above whose surface it rises 3000 feet; and this lake being 300 feet above the level of the sea, makes the entire height of Ben Vorlich 3300 feet; which surpasses any to be met with south of the mountains of Breadalbane. The summit of Ben Vorlich commands a most extensive prospect over the south of Scotland, stretching both to the eastern and western seas, and to the mountains on the borders of England: it may be distinctly seen from Edinburgh, and forms a prominent feature in that part of the Grampian chain which bounds the horizon from Stirling Castle.

Ben Vorlich is the property of Wm. Stewart, Esq. whose house of Ardvorlich is situated on the side of Loch Earn, near the base of the mountain; and which, with the thriving woods that surround it, contributes to enrich the shore of the lake.

Contiguous to Ben Vorlich, on the west, rises a misshapen hill, called Stuch-a-chroan: and to the south is Glen Artney, the only track that is now frequented by red deer in this part of Perthshire. These wild inhabitants of the mountain are preserved in their native haunts, by Lord Willoughby, who has a forest-lodge in the Glen. The

scenery of Glen Artney has a gloomy grandeur about it, which borders on the sublime: it is unadorned by wood, except towards the lower extremity, where the river Ruchil flows at the bottom of a shaggy dell.

The tourist, proceeding towards Loch-Earn-head by the north side of the lake, finds no remarkable deviation from the style of scenery already described: after leaving this point, Ben Vorlich no longer presides over the landscape, being shut out by the lofty ridges that form the southern boundary of the water. At Loch-Earn-head there is a considerable scattered village, with an excellent Inn, where the traveller may be refreshed before he ventures to penetrate the lofty regions of Breadalbane. But before he leaves the shores of Loch Earn, let him bend his course towards the mouth of Glen Ample: the distance is trifling, and the road easy; it crosses, by a bridge, a little rivulet, whose waters, clear as crystal, seem to slumber in a deep and rocky basin; from this tranquil bed they are suddenly precipitated in two spouts over a projecting shelf of rock, into a dark chasm, from whence they rush in a collected body, and have another fall. To a spectator at the bottom of the ravine, the whole is displayed in a manner most strictly beautiful, and admirably accommodated to the powers of the pencil. Near this waterfall is an ancient castellated house, surrounded by some noble trees: it is the property of the Marquis of Breadalbane, and has a very romantic situation, overlooking a little fertile tract, through which the river of Glen Ample finds its way to Loch Earn.

The military road, after passing Loch-Earn-head, enters the steep defile of Glen Ogle, a bleak and savage tract hemmed in by the rocky flanks of the mountains. The vast fragments that have fallen from their sides, bear testimony of the dilapidating change of nature, which not even the solid rocks can resist: one of these huge masses is propped

by a piece of rude masonry, and marks the spot where a desperate villain was slain by a chief of the MacNabs.

The road now begins to open on the sublime regions of Breadalbane, whose mountains are ranged before us as we emerge from the defile. In the N. E. stands Ben Lawers, from which a succession of craggy summits stretch in a western direction towards the hills that bound the north side of Glen Dochart. Opposite these rises the majestic Ben-more, with its elegant counterpart, Sto-binean, and the remote summit of Ben Loy, as we enter Glendochart, by the road noticed on page 48.

CRIEFF TO AMULREE.

CRIEFF is situated on the southern declivity of a hill, on both sides of which roads in a northerly direction are conducted which meet at Monzie; one of them is gained by proceeding about 2 miles on the road to Perth, where advantage is taken of a narrow defile to carry through that branch of the military road:—the other leaves Crieff by the Bridge of Turret, crossing that rivulet twice, and two other tributary mountain streams, ere it arrives at the Mansion-house, and village of Monzie,* which are placed in a charming valley, closed in by mountains on all sides, but to the south west where they open to disclose the splendid scenery towards Loch-Earn. There are here some beautiful walks enlivened by waterfalls, and the house is well deserving a visit.

* Campbell, Esq.

Two miles beyond Monzie, the road enters Glenalmond.* On either hand the view is uncommonly fine:—before us stupendous mountains seemingly rent asunder only to form a narrow bed for the stream, for which, in many places, there seems scarce an outlet left, far less for the road which is cut along the bases of the hills—while to the eastward the valley suddenly opens and presents a rich and cultivated appearance,† contrasting beautifully with the barren summits of the Grampians which stretch in a long line towards the north.

Three miles within the Glen, a Bridge is thrown across the Almond at Newton, where a stone is shewn on which are the figures of people's feet, and the marks of the hoofs of horses, cows, and sheep. Near this the grave of Ossian and other natural and artificial curiosities are pointed out.‡

* After proceeding about four miles north from Monzie, a road branches off on the right to Fendoch and the Bridge of Buchanty; the traveller will have an opportunity of inspecting a Roman Camp on the banks of the Almond, which is tolerably entire and is calculated to have contained about twelve hundred men. Near this camp stands a village called, in Gaelic, Fianteach, i. e. Fingal's house. Within two miles north from this, stands the hill of DUNMORE. On it there is a strong fort, which had the complete command of the passage through the hills. This fort incloses the summit of the hill; and is inaccessible on all sides but one. It is defended by a deep trench without the walls. It is 30 paces in breadth within the inner wall, and 180 paces around the fort. Each wall is 20 feet thick, and 20 feet distant from each other, and from the outer wall to the trench is 30 paces. This is said to have been Fingal's habitation, after Gara burned his house. The walls are built with stone but no cement, and some of the stones would weigh 300 st. in weight.

† The cultivated grounds seen from this point are chiefly on the estate of Glenalmond, (Patton, Esq.) which extends, on the north bank of the Almond, from below Buchanty, nearly to the northern extremity of the Glen.

‡ Ossian's tomb is well known, and often visited. It is a coffin of four stones set on edge, about 2 feet long, 2 feet deep, $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet broad, and over it is laid a great stone, about 8 feet high, and 21 feet in circumference. General Wade's servant discovered it, when making the King's high way. There are many caves here, but the most remarkable one is at the back of GLENTURRET, which is sufficient to hold 60 men under arms. It is situated in a rock, named EAGLE'S ROCK, inaccessible on all sides, except one narrow path. It is said to be the cave into which Gara fled, after burning Fingal's house. Near this cave there is a huge Pine Tree, which is remarkable because there is not another tree at present to be

Amulree, a small village with a comfortable Inn, is three miles beyond Newton. From it a road branches off to Kenmore on the northwest, one to Aberfeldy on the north, and another to Dunkeld on the northeast, each of these places distant from Amulree about 10 miles. A mile and a half south of Amulree, is the excellent Inn of Curry-muckloch.

The road to Kenmore goes through Glen-Quech by the banks of Loch Freuchie, famous for trouting—that to Aberfeldy through Glen-Cofield—and the road to Dunkeld through Strath-Brann—on none of them are there any objects of peculiar interest except in the neighbourhood of Dunkeld, and these have been already pointed out.

PERTH TO DUNBLANE.

PERTH to Dunblane, by Crieff, has been already described,—the road by Auchterarder, being more direct, is the more generally used route to Glasgow. This road is carried, for some distance, in a line with the South Street, then taking a sweep round “the townsmuir,” it passes, near the old house or castle of Pittheavlis, about a mile from the

found in all that part. Tradition says, if any person cut a branch from this tree HE DIES, and that IT LIVES!!! There is a great curiosity, called “The-Kirk-of-the-Wood,” not far from the Eagle’s Rock.—It is composed of large stones, divided into several apartments, with arches and trances, and each stone resting so on another, that one would imagine it to be the work of art.

town, part of an old Roman Causeway,* on the right, which is tolerably entire for several miles to the westward. A short distance farther on, Oakbank, Woodlands, and other mansions are on the same slope, in the midst of thriving orchards and plantations. Four miles from Perth, the plantations of Dupplin are on the left, (v. p. 14.)—Four miles farther, descending a steep bank which commands a most delightful view of Strathearn from its western boundary to where it is lost in the frith of the Tay and the Carse of Gowrie, we cross the Earn at the Bridge of Dalreoch, immediately under the mansion house of Gask,† the ruins of Gascond-hall being on the banks of the river on the right.‡ Three miles beyond this Bridge, after crossing a rivulet at the Mill of Aberuthven, Dam-side§ is on the left, among thick plantations, and within two miles farther we enter the long straggling village of Auchterarder. Immediately on leaving Auchterarder, a road goes off on the right over the muir of Orchill, and joins the road from Crieff to Dunblane at the Roman Camp at Ardoch, (v. p. 58.) Our road lies to the left, having

* This Causeway runs through the middle of the parishes of Aberdalgie and Gask, on the highest ground; it is 20 feet broad, composed of rough stones, closely laid together, and points westward to a camp still distinguishable, in the parish of Muthill, and eastward to another in the parish of Scone. This causeway is in entire preservation, as the proprietor of the adjacent grounds, though he enclosed the fields on each side with stone-dykes, did not suffer a stone to be taken from the road. Along the causeway are stations capable of containing 12 or 20 men; they are enclosed by ditches, yet very distinct, and seem to have been designed for the accommodation of the overseers of the work.—Within Gask's grounds, in this parish, vestiges of two Roman camps, one on the south, and the other on the north of the causeway, are still visible; and the ditches, with the Prætorium, are distinct, though the ground is planted with fir. One of these camps seems to have been capable of containing 500 men, and the other half that number.

† Oliphant, Esq.

‡ The village of Dunning is about two miles south from the Bridge of Dalreoch. Near it are situated Duncrub and Ternavie, (Lord Rollo) and Garvock, (Græme, Esq.)

§ Beveridge Duncan, Esq.

on the south the Ochill hills, richly covered with wood at their bases, among which may be discerned the ruins of Kincardine Castle,* the mansion of Duchally,† and, where the hills open to form a highly picturesque valley, Glen-eagles, the seat of Viscount Duncan. Two miles farther on, we pass the village of Blackford, where there is a comfortable Inn, and five miles more bring us to Greenloaning, from whence to Dunblane, a distance of six miles, has been noticed on page 58.

DUNBLANE TO LOCH CATHERINE.

IN passing from Dunblane to the village of Doune, the distance being about four miles, we notice Kilbride Castle, the seat of Sir Alexander Campbell, Baronet, on a very commanding eminence on the right; and a little farther on Argaty, the seat of Monro Binning, Esq. When just entering the village of Doune, Newton‡ is on the left, with a very advantageous peep of the extensive and luxuriant plantations of Blairdrummond, in the same direction.

On approaching the village of Doune, the Castle of that name, one of the finest baronial ruins in Scotland, constitutes a very prominent object. It is situated upon a peninsula formed by the confluence of the water of Ardoch and the Teith, a spot which seems to have been designed

* Johnston, Esq. † Monteath, Esq. ‡ Edmonstone, Esq.

by nature as a place of strength. It is a huge square building the walls of which are forty feet high, and about ten feet thick. What remains of the tower is at least eighty feet high. It is uncertain when, or by whom it was built; but having been the seat of the Earls of Menteith, it is conjectured, with much probability, that it was erected by that family about the 11th century, and previous to the reign of King Robert II. It is now the property of the family of Stewart, and gives the second title of Lord Doune to the ancient house of Moray. It has been for a long while, fast verging into ruin; but the dilapidations of time will, it is hoped, be interrupted for a century at least, by the repairs which have been lately given to this venerable fabric by the present Earl of Moray, with a laudable attention to the antiquities of his family and of his country. Doune castle is rendered still more interesting, by its having been for some time the residence of Mary, Queen of Scots.

Near this are the celebrated Deanston Cotton Works, one of the most extensive establishments of the kind in the Kingdom, which are well worth the inspection of those who can spare the time; Mr Smith of Deanston, one of the principal proprietors, and also Manager of these works, is the gentleman whose experiments in Draining and Deep-Ploughing, have rendered his name familiar to all who are in any way connected with agriculture.

A little distance to the west of Doune village, we leave Cambuswallace on the right. This beautiful seat has now obtained the name of Doune Lodge, having been a favourite residence of the present Earl of Moray, whilst Lord Doune; and enlarged and ornamented by him in a very elegant manner.

Proceeding along the northern banks of the Teith, which runs with a clear and rapid current over beds of rock, interrupted from time to time with large insulated stones, we

observe on the left, and on the southern banks of the river, Lanrick or Clan Gregor Castle,* an elegant modern structure, and its environs highly favoured by nature, are laid out in lawns and walks, and thriving plantations. The view of the river, just under the windows of the castle, is very fine; tumbling over successive ledges of rocks, it forms a series of small cataracts, or breaks of water, which boil murmuring along.

Advancing within about two miles of Callander, Cambusmore† is upon the left, embosomed in plantations, with an extensive lawn in front, through which winds the Keltie, a large mountain stream which falls into the Teith from the north.

The situation of the village of Callander, together with the whole of the surrounding scenery, is uncommonly beautiful and picturesque. The village is neat, clean, and well built, most of the houses being covered with slate which is found in the neighbourhood. The Laird of Macnab, some years ago, built an inn upon his grounds at the west end of the village, in a style of elegance and comfort not often to be met with in the Highlands of Scotland. The grand and distinguishing feature in the surrounding scenery is Benledi, bounding the horizon on the N.W. This mountain ranks with the first rate *Beinns* of Scotland. Its height 3011 feet. The name Ben-le-di, signifies the *Mountain of God*. It was probably one of the public places of worship under the Druidical Hierarchy, though no monuments of that superstition are now to be found there: there is indeed, on the summit, which is of considerable breadth, a long walk of the smoothest turf, evidently formed by the hand of man. It is said, that on this mountain, in ancient times, the people of the adjacent district met on the first of May—to kindle

* Macgregor Murray, Bart. † Buchanan. Esq.

the sacred fire, in honour of the sun,—the *Belis* of the Cis-alpine, and the *Belenus* of Aremoric Gaul.

The bridge of Bracklinn, (the *speckled* or *white foaming* pool,) situated about a mile up a hill, to the north-east of the village, is highly deserving of the notice of the traveller. The author of the *Lady of the Lake*, gives the following just description of this scene:—"This is a beautiful cascade made at a place called the bridge of Bracklinn, by a mountain stream called the Keltie, about a mile from the village of Callander of Menteith. Above a chasm, where the brook precipitates itself from a height of at least fifty feet, there is thrown, for the convenience of the neighbourhood, a rustic foot-bridge, of about 3 feet in breadth, and without ledges, which is scarcely to be crossed by a stranger without awe and apprehension."

Before leaving Callander the stranger ought not to neglect visiting the Pass of Lennie, which is on the road from Callander to Loch-Earn-head, having the house of Lennie (Hamilton, Esq.) on the right. The scenery, in which Benledi forms a prominent feature, is exceedingly romantic. Issuing from this defile, we soon gain the shores of Loch Lubnaig. The scenery of this lake is of a mixed character, combining beauty with grandeur; its banks are steep, pleasingly broken and well wooded; the long and rocky ridge, which extends northwards from Benledi, sinks to the lake in a perpendicular precipice. Up the water towards the north-west, is seen the Binean of Ben More, rising above the broad summits of Balquhider. An excellent road skirts the north shore of Loch Lubnaig, and enters a level vale bounded on each side by steep hills. To the left a grand vista of mountains is seen, with the waters of Loch Voil at their base, and a bridge of several arches crossing the outlet of the lake, near which is the village, or Kirk-town, of Balquhider. Though Loch Voil is seldom visited by

tourists, it is by no means uninteresting in point of scenery ; its banks are extremely steep, and its shores are in many parts adorned with ash trees.

Proceeding westward either by the road on the north side of the water, after we have crossed the bridge of Callander, and reached "that torrent's sounding shore," where once was "Coilantogle Ford" (which has fallen into disuse since the erection of a bridge),—or keeping the south side of the river Teith, we soon gain the banks of Loch Vennachar. This lake is about four miles and a half long, and at least a mile in breadth. Its shores are not distinguished by any extraordinary degree of beauty, till we approach its western confines; there the hills are more pleasingly broken and well clothed with wood; Ben Venue also forming a noble feature in the distance. On the farm of Miltown, situated on the south side of the lake, and within a mile and a half of its western extremity, is a pleasing little cascade, at no great distance from the road, to which those desirous of visiting it may be guided, by the sound of the water. Another mountain stream, which crosses the road somewhat farther to the west, on the farm of Lanrick, descends through a deep ravine in the hill, which, although difficult of access, is well worth visiting. At the head of the lake is "Lanrick mead." There is a road on the south side of Loch Vennachar; but that which traverses its northern shores is generally preferred by those who visit this part of the country in carriages, it being the more easy of access; though the other is perhaps preferable, as far as regards the beauty of the scenes displayed from it. Loch Vennachar has a wooded island near its eastern extremity. Before proceeding farther it may be proper to notice Loch Drunky, a small lake lying among the hills to the southward. The form of this lake is irregular; its banks are clothed with oak coppice; and, towering above them, in the distance, are seen Ben-venue

and Ben-ledi. Loch Drunky has one small island, on which may be traced some vestiges of a building. By ascending a little way up the hill to the south of Loch Drunky, we obtain a noble prospect of distant mountains, among which the double summit of Ben More is conspicuous.

Let those who may be induced to visit all the romantic scenery of this district, when they arrive at the Brig of Turk, direct their course up the banks of the river, till they reach the cataract which with "wild tumult," rushes at the base

"Of that huge cliff, whose ample verge
Tradition calls the hero's targe."

Let them descend (though with some difficulty) to the bottom of the ravine, where they will be surrounded by a piece of uncommonly wild and picturesque local scenery—a meet abode for the outlaw, who is said to have made this his place of refuge. The impetuous stream that dashes through this chasm, has its origin in the mountains of Glen Finglass, which open about a quarter of a mile farther to the north; a rough road penetrates the rocky defile that leads into this valley, and conducts us by the margin of the little river which issues from it, to a level cultivated tract, surrounded on all sides by steep, smooth, and lofty hills. Glen Finglass has been inhabited, from time immemorial, by "Stewarts," who still retain much of the spirit of clanship. By intermarriages, they are united like members of the same family in one common interest, and participate in the good or evil which befalls each other. They have lost, indeed, the ferocity of the ancient Highland character; but they still possess the integrity and firmness of their ancestors. As "Stewart" is the surname of all the inhabitants of this glen, they find it necessary to distinguish each other in conversation by some particular descriptive appellation, as

Donucha-Ban, which signifies white Duncan ; Rob-an-Or, golden Robert ; Eoen-Breac, speckled John ; &c., &c.—Glen Finglass was formerly a royal deer forest ; and the remains of ancient trees, still to be found in it, prove that it was once well wooded. At present this great ornament of landscape is to be discovered only towards the head of the glen, where the hills are sparingly clothed with birch. The upper regions of this mountain are frequented by the ptarmigan. As one of the farmers of Glen Finglass was traversing Ben Ledi in search of this bird, he observed, perched upon a rock at a little distance from him, a large eagle, which, undisturbed by his approach, sat eyeing him without showing any signs of fear ; though his gun was only loaded with small shot, he thought himself sufficiently near his object for it to take full effect ; he fired—when the bird uttering a dreadful scream, flew at him with extended claws, and seemed to aim its fury at the head of the assailant ; he was, however, fortunate enough to meet the fierce attack, by a well-directed blow from the butt end of his gun, and the eagle, exhausted, fell over the precipice on the north side of the mountain.

Loch Achray, fringed by the Trosachs and overlooked by the majestic Ben-venue, is now before us ;—but these are scenes that have been touched by the glowing pencil of the Wizard of the North, and who will listen to any other guide ? It was here the minstrel said “ Farewell to lovely Achray,” and every spectator will feel with the poet —

“ Where will he find in a foreign land,
So lone a walk—so sweet a strand ?”

It was “ up the margin of *this* lake” where our road winds, that Fitz-James, (for who with the scenery before him doubts the reality of the chase) “ alone,” “ plied the scourge and steel.”—In the devious paths and wild rocks

of the Trosachs, where we now enter, the noble stag
 " His solitary refuge took."

Here the hunter

" Often paus'd—so strange the road—
 So wond'rous were the scenes it show'd,
 —So wond'rous wild, the whole might seem
 The scenery of a fairy dream."

And if we do not wish to dissolve the illusion by emerging from the glen by the modern road, we may, by climbing the last crag that shoots from the dell, attain the point from whence he saw

" Loch Katherine beneath him roll'd;
 In all her length far winding lay,
 With promontory creek and bay,
 And islands that empurpled bright,
 Floated amid the livelier light;
 And mountains that like giants stand,
 To sentinel enchanted land.
 High on the south, huge Ben-venue,*
 Down to the lake in masses threw
 Crag, knolls, and mounds, confusedly hurl'd,
 The fragments of an earlier world;
 A wildering forest feathered o'er
 His ruined sides and summit hoar,
 While on the north, through middle air,
 Ben-an† heaved high his forehead bare."

Descending from this point a boat awaits at the very spot, underneath the "aged oak"

" That slanted from the islet rock,"

* Ben-venue is perhaps one of the most picturesque mountains in Britain. Its height is about 3000 feet. On the north, (the aspect of the mountain which now presents itself,) besides the immense masses of rock, which appear in this and in all other mountains, to have been, by some convulsion of nature, torn from the summit, the whole slope is covered, for two-thirds upwards, with alders, birches, and mountain ashes, of ancient growth; and sprinkled over the surface with a grace and beauty unattainable by the hand of art.

† Ben-an, on the north, presents a very singular appearance. Elevated high above the rugged precipices of the Trosachs, it is for 300 or 400 feet from the summit entirely conical, and appears so steep as to preclude all access. Its height is probably about 1800.

and the "clambering unsuspected road" to the retirement of the exiled family may still be traced.

From this island the boat plies across the lake to "Ben-venue's most darksome cliff," and "in a dark sequestered dell" the low and lonely cell" of Coir-nan-Uriskin* or the Goblin Cave, is pointed out.—But we must have done with Sir Walter—all who have as much poetry about them as to fit them for the enjoyment of such scenes, will have all the poet's glowing verses fresh in their mind—those who have not, had better "hie them" from the Fairies and the Spirit of the lake, whose abode has been outraged—their groves demolished—their "copse-wood" and "tangled screens" laid bare, by hands that never "waked to ecstasy the living lyre," and hearts that have listened, unmoved, to the wild minstrelsy of the Harp of the North!

Before descending to the boat, the adventurous traveller will not neglect to ascend to Bealach-nam-bo, or the pass of cattle. "There is not," said an enthusiastic admirer, and a skilful delineator of scenery, who has been on the spot, "there is not such a Bealach in the universe, as Bealach-nam-bo." Indeed, did the traveller's time and convenience permit, his toil would be well rewarded, should he cross the lake to Aberfoil side, a little above the second booth; or walk up from Achray, along the river to the hay barn at Murlagan, to obtain a nearer view of the wonderful scenery of Ben-venue. The fine disposition of the woods, the stupendous overhanging rocks, the awful so-

* Ben-venue is rendered venerable in the superstition of the natives by the celebrated Coir-nan-Uriskin, (the cave, or recess of goblins,) situated on the northern side of the mountain, and overhanging the lake in gloomy grandeur. The Urisks were a sort of lubberly supernaturals, who, like the Brownies of England, could be gained over by kind attentions, to perform the drudgery of the farm; and it was believed that many families in the Highlands had one of the order attached to them. They were supposed to be dispersed over the Highlands, each in his own wild recess; but the solemn stated meetings of the order were regularly held in this cave of Ben-venue.

lemnity of Coir-nan-Uriskin, and the magnificence of Bealach-nam-bo would amply gratify his taste for the sublime.

Although the east end of Loch Katherine possesses stronger claims to admiration than either its middle or western divisions, and the two latter are often entirely neglected on account of their distance from the Inns at Callander and Aberfoil; yet they are considered sufficiently interesting to deserve a separate description in this work.— We shall, therefore, recommend the traveller to proceed westward in the boat, or by the road on the north side of the Lake; assuring him, that if picturesque scenery be the object of his search, he cannot but be highly gratified by the excursion; nor need any apprehensions for personal safety disturb him; the farmers on “Loch Katherine’s side” never shut the door against the benighted traveller, who is always greeted with welcome to such accommodation as the Highland cottage can afford.

As we continue our journey westward, after passing the farm of Brian-choil, Ben Lomond begins to discover its indented summit, rising, with great elegance, over the ridges which form the southern boundary of the water, and combining well with the tufted trees that adorn the grounds. The shattered form of the Cobar increases the wild grandeur of the group, which lift their heads against the western sky. Looking back towards the south-east, Ben-venue rises with great majesty, presenting a new and very pleasing form. Its general contour is, perhaps, improved by this change in the position from which it is viewed: but the rugged grandeur of its surface begins to melt in the distance. Before we reach that part of the road where the waters of Loch Katherine curve towards the north, Ben Ledi is seen in the east, rearing its broad and horizontal brow above the lesser heights of Glen Finglass. The shores of the lake become more steep and rocky as we ap-

proach Glen Gyle; and three islands occur near its western extremity. On the eastern one, which is overgrown with wood, are some remains of a fortified house; another of these islands also is adorned with wood; and the third is more lofty, and covered with heath. This part of the lake is diversified by promontories and peninsulas. Glen Gyle offers no objects of peculiar attraction, except the tourist should happen to visit it immediately after heavy rain, when the mountain torrents swell into grandeur.—The channels of some streams which descend into the lake on the north side (especially that of the Leter Burn) possess considerable interest. Five miles over the heath, the pedestrian will reach Loch Lomond.

DUNBLANE

TO

ABERFOIL, LOCH ARD, &c.

FROM Dunblane to Doune we proceed as on page 70. At Doune cross the Teith, and three miles beyond join the road from Stirling,* near Thornhill: or if it is desired to

* The road from Stirling to Blairdrummond is thus described by Dr Graham:—Soon after leaving Stirling, the traveller passes by Craighforth-house, the seat of Colonel Callander, very picturesquely situated upon a rock, precipitous on the west, and sloping gently towards the east like the rock on which Stirling Castle stands. As he advances, after crossing the Forth, a little after its junction with the Teith by the bridge of Drip, he passes Ochertyre, the seat of John Ramsay, Esq. a correspondent of the poet Burns, and the author of many classical Latin epitaphs. The elegant mansion of Blairdrummond, with its ex-

visit the scenery of Blairdrummond, turn southward at the Bridge of Doune, and join the Stirling road near Kincardine.

The road from Blairdrummond to Thornhill presents no object of considerable interest, till we reach Rednock-house, the seat of Major General Graham Stirling of Duchray and Auchyle. Here, a situation not eminently favoured by nature, has received almost all the ornamental improvement which art can bestow. A very fine lawn with extensive and thriving plantations judiciously disposed, afford a fine relief to the dreariness of the adjacent moss. Indeed, the exertions of General Graham Stirling, and of his enterprising neighbour, Mr Erskine of Cardross, have given a new and very pleasing aspect to this whole tract of country.

Advancing from Rednock-house, about a mile, we reach the lake of Menteith, considered one of the most beautiful expanses of water in Scotland. It is nearly of a circular form, and about five miles in circumference. The northern shore is adorned with several stately oaks, Spanish Chestnuts, and plane trees of ancient growth. On this side, the manse and church, together with an elegant cemetery, lately built for the Gartmore family, from a design by Mr William Stirling, architect at Dunblane, and situated on the verge of the lake, give interest to the scenery of the *Port of Menteith*.

But the most distinguished ornaments of the lake of Menteith, worthy the minute attention of the antiquary, and the visit of the tourist, are its two islands, decorated with the ruins of ancient buildings.*

tensive lawn, finely besprinkled with trees of various species, a great proportion of which are a century old, and whose growth is commensurate with their age, now opens upon the view. This is the seat of Henry Drummond, Esq., and was the favourite retreat of the late celebrated Henry Home Drummond, Lord Kames, from his forensic labours.

* The larger and more easterly island is called Inchmahome, on which are to be seen some very fine ruins of an ancient Priory. The Anti-

From the Port of Menteith to the "Clachan of Aberfoil," rendered classic ground by the adventures of Bailie Nicol Jarvie, is about 5 miles. A comfortable inn has been lately built at the Kirkton, by his Grace the Duke of Montrose, where the stranger will meet with good beds, stables, and other accommodations.*

The valley of Aberfoil, with its precipitous rock,† its winding river, its meadows, and richly wooded knolls, has long been admired by strangers for its singular beauty. Loch Ard‡ especially, with its bays and promontories, and

quities of this place have been most ably elucidated by the late clergyman of the parish, (Mr M'Gregor Stirling), in a very elegant and elaborate work, published in 1815. The Priory is generally supposed to have been founded by David I., but to a copy of Mr Stirling's book, there is appended the following M.S. note:—

"Since the 'Notes on the Priory of Inchmahome' were printed, the writer finds that in the appendix to the 4th and latest edition of Apb. Spottiswood's History of the Church of Scotland, it is asserted, that 'the Priory of St Colonor's Isle, in Menteith,' was 'founded by Edgar, King of Scotland.' p. 14. This could have been none other than St. Colmoe's Isle, or Inchmahome, which must have been founded before 1107, and been the first of the Augustinian Monasteries, north of the Tweed."

* From the inn to the opening of the Trosachs is five miles across the hill. The road that leads over the hill is steep and rugged; it does not admit of carriages, but is "tolerable" for riders. Guides and horses may be had, on a short notice, at the inn. Gartmore (Graham, Esq.) is on the confines of the county, about two miles south from Aberfoil. There are here some fine paintings.

† This spot, in ancient times, formed the barrier between the low country, and the almost inaccessible tract that lies to the westward. It is called the Pass of Aberfoil. Previous to the formation of the road, which now stretches along the bank of the lake, a few men stationed in this pass, could have repulsed an army in attempting to advance further into the Highlands: in the time of the commonwealth, a party of Cromwell's army attempting to penetrate into the upper country by this pass, was repulsed with considerable loss, by the natives, headed by the Earl of Glencairn, and Graham of Duchray, whose castle, situated about a mile to the southward, the invaders reduced to ashes.

‡ The upper lake, which is by far the more extensive, is separated from the lower by a stream of about 200 yards in length. The most advantageous view of the upper lake presents itself from a rising ground near its lower extremity where a foot path strikes off to the south, into the wood that overhangs this connecting stream. About a mile distant from the station of the spectator, a cluster of small islands is seen close upon the southern shore. They are merely barren rocks. On one of them are still to be seen the ruins of an ancient edifice, said to

wood-skirted banks, is worthy the vicinity of Benlomond, which forms a principal feature in the landscape.

Loch Chon opens on the view about 2 miles westward of Loch Ard. It is a very romantic lake; its length is between two and three miles, and its breadth about one. The road is tolerably good, and has lately received some repairs. This lake is finely skirted on the north with thriving woods of oak, ash, birch, and alder. On the south it is bounded by a precipitous mountain of at least 1500 feet, sprinkled, towards the west, with aged birches to a great height, somewhat in the style of the lower skirts of Benvenue. Towards the west end of this mountain, a considerable stream pours itself down over a ledge of schistose rock, from a height of more than 1000 feet. Its course deviates a few degrees from the perpendicular, so that the stream does not throw itself over the rock, but glides swiftly down, after the manner of the fall at Croy.

The road stretches north-west from the head of Lochchon to Inversnaid, upon the eastern bank of Lochlomond. At a place called *Skia-n'ivir*, or the ridge of yew trees, the highest ground occurs in this direction between the eastern and western seas; the waters which flow to the east form one of the sources of the Forth, and those to the west falling by Lochlomond into the Clyde. A little lake of about two miles in circumference, called Locharclet, is left on

have been built by Murdoch, Duke of Albany, uncle of James I. of Scotland. It is said that he designed this as a place of retreat when he apprehended a prosecution on account of his ambitious designs, for which, indeed, he was afterwards beheaded. Leaving this station, the traveller passes along the verge of the lake, under a ledge of perpendicular rock, from thirty to fifty feet high. Standing immediately under this rock, towards its western extremity, and looking to the other side of the lake, you have a double echo of uncommon distinctness. Upon pronouncing with a firm voice, a line of ten syllables, it is returned first from the opposite side of the lake; and, when that is finished, it is repeated with equal distinctness from the wood on the east. The day must be perfectly calm, and the lake as smooth as glass, for otherwise no voice can be returned from a distance of at least a quarter of a mile.

the south of the road. From this ground a fine view may be had of the western portion of Loch Kathrine.

DUNBLANE

TO

KINCARDINE, CULROSS, &c.

A CONSIDERABLE part of the following section does not come strictly within our limits, as the road lies through Clackmannanshire. but as this county, from its situation, is generally included in the maps of the county of Perth, and contains some very interesting scenery, a short notice of some of the principal places may not be unacceptable.

From Dunblane we proceed southward to where the road touches the Forth, then eastward, having Powis* on the left, and Manor† with its Roman Camp on the right, for four miles, across the Devon, to Tullibody. A mile beyond the village, the mansion-house‡ of the same name is on the right, and two miles farther, we are in the town of Alloa. The tower of Clackmannan soon appears, and two miles from Alloa we enter the capital of that small county. Two miles beyond Clackmannan, the road again enters the county of Perth, and runs for two miles directly south, passing the ruins of the Castle of Tulliallan, into the port of Kincardine. At this port there is a good road-

* Mayne, Esq. † Dundas, Esq. ‡ Abercromby, Esq.

stead where 100 vessels may ride with safety. The shipping belonging to it is considerable, being little short of the number of vessels the roadstead is calculated to be capable of containing.* From Kincardine the road lies by the Firth of Forth, passing Sands,† a mile beyond it Blair Castle,‡ a strong old house, said to have been built by Hamilton, Archbishop of St Andrews, and in about a mile farther, entering the ancient Royal Burgh of Culross, at the west end of which stands the Abbey, a seat of Lord Keith. At the east end of the town, on the sea coast, the high road only intervening, are the remains of a chapel, called *St Mungo's Chapel*, of which the tradition is, that it was on or near the place where St Mungo or Kentigern was born. The monastery, which was founded in the year 1217 by Malcolm, Thane of Fife, lies N. W. from St Mungo's, at the head of the town, on a rising ground, commanding a beautiful and extensive prospect of the Firth. Considerable remains of it are yet to be seen. On the north side was the Abbey Church, which had a tower or steeple in the middle, still entire, as is also a part of the church, now made use of for the parish church. A mile and a half beyond Culross, the road leaves the confines of the county at Torry.

Returning to Dunblane, we take a more circuitous route in order to visit the fine scenery on the Devon.

From Torry our road lies in a direct line towards Alloa for 6 miles, passing on the right, Valleyfield,|| and Blairhall,§ it then turns due north, having Brucefield¶ on the right. Two miles beyond this, it crosses the south Devon

* Very fine freestone is quarried in this neighbourhood. Not only many of the principal buildings in Edinburgh, but even the Stadt house of Amsterdam are said to have been built of it, and the remains of a pier, said to be built by the Dutch Company, are visible.

† Johnstone, Esq. ‡ Dundas, Esq. || Preston, Bart.

§ Ronaldson Dickson, Esq. ¶ Abercromby, Esq.

at the village of Forest Mill. A mile farther, Aberdonie* is on the left. Within another mile and a half, it crosses the Devon, having Dollerbeg† on the right, and Sherdale‡ on the left, and a short distance farther, enters the village of Dollar. ||

The ruins of Castle Campbell have long given celebrity to the neighbourhood of this village. They are most nobly placed on an eminence shut in by a vast amphitheatre of the Ochills, and surrounded by dark woods,—a grandeur of situation that has few equals, and that very naturally gave rise to the original name of the building,—*Castle Gloom*. It belongs to the Argyle family and is of very great antiquity. The date of its erection is unknown. An act of the Scottish Parliament in 1493, authorises the change of name from Castle Gloom to Castle Campbell.

The establishment of the College [at Dollar has also of late added to the number of visitors to the lovely banks of the Devon.

At Dollar we turn westward through the valley, passing Tilliycoultry, § adjoining the village, Bruce, ¶ and two miles farther, before entering the village of the same name, Alva house. ** From Alva the road still continues westward, for about four miles, having Gogar†† on the left, Blair, ‡‡ and the Hill of Demyet (from which there is one of the most sublime prospects of which Scotland can boast,) on the right, and enters the Stirling road through the beautiful plantations of Aithry. || ||

* Lord Alva, † Duke of Atholl, ‡ Drysdale, Esq.

|| From Dollar a road goes eastward a few miles, where it is crossed by the new road through the Yetts of Muckhart to Queensferry. Three miles eastward from this it leaves the county at the Crook of Devon, and continues onward to Kinross.

§ Tait, Esq. ¶ Carstairs, Esq. ** Johnstone, Esq.

†† Masterton, Esq. ‡‡ Spital, Esq. ||| Abercromby, G.C.B.

PERTH TO DUNDEE,

BY LAND.

FROM Perth to Dundee the traveller passes through one of the richest and most beautiful districts in Scotland. The Carse of Gowrie extends fifteen miles in length, and from two to four in breadth on the north bank of the river Tay, between that river and the foot of the Sidlaw hills. This tract of land, which is a rich plain, cultivated like a garden, seems to have been at one period covered with water;—nay, in the remembrance of several people still alive, many parts were morasses, which at this day are extensive fields of arable ground. The river Tay is supposed to have formed a circuit round the Carse, washing the foot of the Sidlaw hills, and entering its present channel at Invergowrie. Staples for holding cables have been found at the foot of the Sidlaw hills, north of the flat land. The parish of St Madoes, which is now in the Carse of Gowrie, is said to have been once on the southern side of the river. Such parts of the Carse as are called *Inches*, (a word which signifies islands,) are elevated above the other flat ground, which has been covered with water. The soil of these eminences is very different from that of the low ground, the former being a red till, approaching to the nature of loam, and the latter, like all land which has been immersed under water, is a blue clay of a very rich quality. Lying on the banks of the river Tay, the Carse of Gowrie possesses several tolerable harbours, the chief of which is near Errol, almost in the centre of the district: and the river abounds with salmon fishings on every part of its banks. The quarry of Kingoodie, on the estate of

Mylnefield, is one of the best quarries in the county. The stone is of a grey colour, and takes a fine polish. Many blocks of immense size have been raised : some being fifty feet in length, sixteen broad, and three thick.

Crossing the Tay by the Bridge, from the centre of which the view northward is particularly admired,—we turn to the right, passing the villa of Potterhill* on the left, and a little farther on Bellwood House,† the situation of which, on a projecting point of the Hill of Kinnoull to the west, is one of the most commanding in the neighbourhood, and has been much and justly admired; on the opposite side of the road are seen, the Church of Kinnoull, Marshall Cottage,‡ the extensive and beautifully kept Nursery Grounds of Messrs Dickson and Turnbull, and the House of Barnhill;|| we here turn the projecting corner of Kinnoull-hill, at Barnhill, and proceed eastward, under the picturesque Craigs of Kinnoull. Three miles from Perth, pass Kinfauns Castle, the seat of Lord Gray. Within a mile, Seggieden,§ and the ruins of Elcho Castle, are on the right, and a road branches off on the left to the Botanic valley of Balthayock.¶ A little beyond Seggieden, *a cottage and tree* border the road on the north:—let the traveller pause here and look back, and he will pardon us for avoiding all attempt at description.

Soon we pass the handsome modern house of Inchyra,** and the turrets of Pitfour Castle†† are discernible among

* Seton, Esq. † Turnbull, Esq. ‡ Patton, Esq. of Glenalmond.
 || Moncrieff, Esq. § Hay, Esq.

¶ The ruins of the Castle of Balthayock are visible from the river. All this part of our ride appears to great advantage from the river, especially coming up from Dundee. From opposite Pitfour Castle, sailing under Kinfauns, Seggieden, and Elcho,—a panorama moves around us, which is not excelled, if equalled, by any scenery in the kingdom.

** Anderson Blair, Esq.

†† Richardson, Bart. Here a road branches off southward to Errol, passing on the left Murie and Errol House, noticed above. From

the trees on the right. A mile farther, Glencarse* is at the foot of the hills on the north, and Murie† and Errol House‡ are considerably to the south-east, when Glendoick|| is on the left, under a beautifully wooded hill.

A mile and a half beyond Glendoick—Megginch Castle§ is observed, finely situated within an avenue of noble trees. Near the Half-way House, a road from Perth by Rait¶ joins the main road, and two miles beyond, Inchmartin** is on the left, while Fingask, Ballindean, (see note) &c. are observed on the hills to the northward.

At Inchtute there is a comfortable Inn. Leaving this village, Rossie Priory,†† a very splendid building, is on the left, and Castlehuntingly,‡‡ finely situated on an abrupt rock overlooking the rich valley, is on the right. Soon we enter the straggling village of Longforan, and two miles beyond it leave the county at the termination of the plantations of Mylnefield,|| || having the house and plantations of Gray§§ at some distance on the left.

Errol it goes eastward by Powgavie, having Leys (Hay, Esq.) on the left, and Seaside (Hunter, Esq.) on the right. From Powgavie it still lies eastward, joining the great Carse road at the confines of the county.

* Hunter, Esq. † Yeaman. ‡ Allen, Esq.

¶ Craigie, Esq. Here a road branches off, in a north-easterly direction, near the hills, to Kilspindy, (Robertson, Esq.) near which is Evlick, (Lindsay, Bart.) A mile beyond Kilspindy it enters Rait, (Stuart, Esq.) passes Fingask, (Murray Thriepland, Bart.) Kinnaird, (Richardson, Esq.) and Balleidean, (Trotter, Esq.) as it enters the village of Balledgarno, where a road crosses from Inchtute to Coupar Angus.

§ Admiral Drummond.

¶ This road leaves Perth in a north-easterly direction, passing near New Scone, then turning more to the eastward by Springfield, (M'Duff, Esq.) and Murrayshall, (Murray, Esq.) it is carried through a romantic valley, just above the village of Rait, into the Carse.

** Allen, Esq. †† Lord Kinnaird. ‡‡ Paterson, Esq.

|| Mylne, Esq. §§ Lord Gray.

PERTH TO DUNDEE,

BY THE RIVER.

THE scenery of the Tay, from Perth to the mouth of the Frith, has been much celebrated, particularly that portion of it betwixt Perth and Newburgh; and the establishment of several commodious and elegantly fitted up steam boats, which ply daily, affords the best opportunity to tourists for its enjoyment. It is seen to most advantage in ascending the river from Dundee; the boats generally cross to the southern side, leaving the neat thriving villages of Maryport and Newport, beautifully situated on the bank ascending from the pier. About a mile on we pass Wormit Bay, formerly called Balmerino, the manse and church of which are about the same distance from the river, and half way between are the ruins of its ancient monastery. This property gave the title to the Lordship of that name, erected by James VI. in favour of Sir James Elphinstone, Secretary of State, and son of Lord Elphinstone. A descendant of this family was ennobled in 1603, by the title of Lord Balmerino; and it is remarkable that of the six peers who bore this title, from that time to its extinction in 1746, three were condemned for high treason, although only the last lord, who was engaged in the "affair of '45," suffered capital punishment. Balmerino is now the property of the Earl of Moray.

The next object of interest is the mansion house of Birkhill, anciently called Corbie, picturesquely situated among plantations which skirt the margin of the river. It is the property of Alexander Scrimgeour Wedderburne, Esq.

hereditary Standard-bearer for Scotland. About 3 miles westward stands the house and Church of Flisk, on a projecting point of land, in the midst of one of the smallest parishes in Scotland, containing less than 300 inhabitants. It was lately the residence of Dr Fleming, one of the most eminent Scottish naturalists. The ruins of Bambriech Castle will be observed, overhanging the river, about 3 miles below Newburgh. This was the seat of the ancient family of the Leslies, celebrated in Scottish history, and now in the possession of Lord Dundas, to whom all the property for some miles west and east of this spot belongs.

Returning to the north bank of the river, at Dundee, and passing westward successively Binrock,* Blackness,† Balgay,‡ the latter conspicuously situated on the top of a wooded hill, we come to Invergowrie Bay, which is about three miles in extent from north to south, and the burn of the same name which discharges itself nearly into the centre of the bay, forms the division between the counties of Forfar and Perth. Along the bay will successively be seen, Invergowrie House,§ with the old Parish Church, a mouldering ivy covered ruin, close on the river's brink.—North of this is the new and large bleaching work of Bal-lim, and a little westward lies Mylnefield,|| on which property is the celebrated Quarry of Kingoodie.

About a mile and a half backward from the river, the southern line of the Sidlaws commence, which run parallel with it to their termination at Kinnoull near Perth. Among the *braes* which lie northwest of Invergowrie will be observed the House of Camperdown, a beautiful structure of white sandstone, erected by Government for the late

* Clayhills, Esq. † Hunter, Esq.

‡ Anderson, now Lady Scott of Ancrum.

§ Clayhills, Esq. || Mylne, Esq.

Admiral Lord Duncan, and named in honour of the victory for which he was ennobled. His son, the present proprietor, was created Earl of Camperdown in 1831. To the westward stands the House of Gray, the family estate of Lord Gray of Kinfauns. The ruins of the Church of Benvie lie half-way betwixt Gray House and the river. The old Church of Fowlis, about 2 miles northward, is one of the most perfect specimens of ancient church architecture in this country, being built in 1142.

For a description of the scenery above this, see pages 88 and 89.

PERTH

TO

COUPAR ANGUS, MEIGLE, &c.

Two miles from Perth pass the neat and thriving village of New Scone. Murrayshall,* and a mile beyond it, Blackcragst are on the right. Two miles farther pass between the very neat Mansion of St Martin's‡ and Bandirran,|| the latter just under the lofty and classic Crag of Dunsinane, on the top of which are some traces of the foundation of Macbeth's Castle. This hill is 1024 feet above the level of the sea, insulated, of an oval form, with a flat and verdant summit; towards the north-west the ascent is gradual;

* Murray, Esq. † M'Duff, Esq. ‡ Col. M'Donald

|| Miss Drummond.

on all others it is steep and of difficult access. The area on which the castle stood was anciently surrounded with a wall built of stone without cement. Two miles more, Dunsinnane House* is on the left—a mile beyond it Lawton† on the right, and three miles farther, Lintrose,‡ at some distance in the same direction. Shortly we are between Keithick|| on the left, and Balgersho§ on the right, and in about a mile we enter Coupar Angus, so called to distinguish it from Coupar in Fife; it contains about 2000 inhabitants, with a considerable linen manufacture, and a large tannery: the streets are paved and supplied with lamps.—Near it are still visible the marks of a camp formed by Agricola. It is nearly a square of 24 acres. On the centre of this camp Malcolm IV. founded an abbey of Cistercian monks in 1104, and endowed it with large revenues.

Leaving Coupar, Beech-hill¶ is observable on the right; two miles farther we pass the fine pleasure grounds of Arthurstone** on the right, while Cronan†† is on the left, near the Isla. Soon we pass Kinloch,‡‡ also between us and the river, where the elegant mansion of Belmont Castle||| is on the right, as we enter the village of Meigle. The whole of the ride from Coupar Angus eastward, is through the most luxuriant country, and picturesque scenery. We have hitherto had the Isla on the left, but this river turning northward below Meigle, our road lies subsequently by the banks of the Dean, having Potento§§ on the left, Drumkilbo¶¶ on the right; and leaving the county three miles beyond Meigle, and the same distance from the lovely scenery and venerable Castle of Glamis.***

* Meliss Nairne, Esq. † Wright, Esq. ‡ Murray, Esq.

|| Wood, Esq. § Ross, Esq. ¶ Hay, Esq. ** M·Nab, Esq.

†† Blair, Esq. ‡‡ Kinloch, Esq. ||| Hon. Stuart Wortley.

§§ Murray, Esq. ¶¶ Nairne, Esq. *** Earl of Strathmore.

ROADS AND DISTANCES

CONNECTED WITH THE PRESENT WORK.

No. 1.—EDINBURGH TO ABERDEEN.

	MILES.			MILES.	
South Queensferry	9		<i>Through Glenshee.</i>		
Blair Adam . . .	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	22 $\frac{1}{2}$	To Perth . . .	44	
Kinross . . .	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	27	Coupar Angus . .	13	57
Enter Perthshire	6	33	Blairgowrie . .	5	56
Glenfarg Inn . .	3	36	Cally Bridge . .	6	68
Bridge of Earn . .	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	39 $\frac{1}{2}$	Spital of Glenshee	13	81
Perth	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	44	Confines of County	5	86
Inchtute	14	58	Braemar	10	96
Longforgan . . .	3	61	Aberdeen	55	151
Conf. of the County	2	63			
Dundee	3	66			
Arbroath	17	83			
Montrose	13	96			
Innerbervie . . .	12	108			
Stonehaven . . .	10	118			
Aberdeen	15	133			

No. 2.—EDINBURGH TO INVERNESS.

BY PERTH.		BY CRIEFF, <i>via Stirling.</i>	
To Perth as in No. 1	44	Stirling	35
Auchtergaven . .	8 52	Dunblane	6 41
Dunkeld,	7 59	Greenloaning . .	5 46
Moulinarn	10 69	Crieff	10 56
Blair Atholl . . .	10 79	BY CRIEFF, <i>via Muckhart.</i>	
Dalnacardoch . .	11 90	Dunfermline . . .	17
Conf. of County .	7 97	Muckhart	12 29
Dalwhinnie . . .	6 103	Crieff	17 46
Pitmain	13 116	Amulree	11 57
Aviemore	13 129	Aberfeldy	10 67
Freebairn	15 144	Bridge of Tummel	13 80
Inverness	15 159	Dalnacardoch . .	10 90

No. 3.—EDINBURGH TO FORTWILLIAM.

BY PERTH.

	MILES.		MILES.
To Perth as in No. 1	44	To Perth as in No. 1	44
Crieff	17 61	Dunkeld	15 59
Lochearnhead . .	19 80	Aberfeldy	17 76
Tyndrum	20 100	Kenmore	6 82
Kingshouse . . .	18 118	Killin	16 98
Glencoe	9 127	Tyndrum	18 116
Fort-William . .	19 146		

BY STIRLING.

Stirling	35	Stirling	35
Doune	8 43	Crieff, v. No. 2 .	21 56
Callander	8 51	Or to Crieff, by Yetts	
Lochearnhead . .	15 66	of Muckhart, v. No. 2	46
Tyndrum	20 86	from Crieff as above.	

No. 4.—GRAND TOUR OF PERTHSHIRE,

By which all the principal Lochs may be visited.

Perth to		Callander	15 109
Dunkeld	15	Loch Catherine . .	9 118
Moulinarn	10 25	Aberfoyle	7 125
Blair Atholl . . .	10 35	Port	4 129
Strowan	5 40	Doune	10 139
Trinafour	5 45	Stirling	8 140
Kinloch Rannoch .	6 51	Dunblane	6 153
Bridge of Tummel .	8 59	Greenloaning . . .	5 158
Cosheville	7 66	Crieff	11 169
Kenmore	4 70	Methven	11 180
Killin	16 86	Perth	6 186
Lochearnhead . . .	8 94		

No. 5.—PERTH TO DUNKELD AND BLAIR
ATHOLE.—As in No. 4.No. 6.—PERTH TO DUNKELD, OR
BLAIRGOWRIE,

BY THE LOCHS OF STORMONT.

Bridge of Isla, . .	11	Dunkeld	15
Marlie	5 16	Marlie	10 25
Dunkeld	10 26	Blairgowrie . . .	2 27
Perth	15 41	Perth	15 42

No. 7.—PERTH TO THE DISTRICT OF TUMMEL.

	MILES.			MILES.	
Moulinarn v. No. 4	25		Aberfeldy v. No. 3	32	
P. of Killiecrankie	7	32	Dull	3	35
Bridge of Tummel	10	42	Cosheville . . .	2	37
Kinloch Rannoch	8	50	Bridge of Tummel	8	45

No. 8.—PERTH TO KENMORE AND LOCH TAY. As in Nos. 3 and 4.

No. 9.—PERTH TO LOCHEARNHEAD.

Methven	6	
Crieff	11	17
Comrie	6	23
Lochearnhead . .	13	36

No. 10.—PERTH TO LOCH CATHERINE.

Crieff as above . .	17		Auchterarder . .	14	
Dunblane	16	33	Dunblane	12	26
Doune	4	37	Doune	4	30
Callander	8	45	Port	10	40
Loch Catherine . .	9	54	Aberfoyle	4	44
			Loch Catherine . .	7	51

No. 11.—PERTH TO STIRLING.

Crieff as above . .	17		Auchterarder . .	14	
Dunblane	16	33	Dunblane	13	27
Stirling	6	39	Stirling	6	33
or					
Kinross	17				
Crook of Devon . .	6	23			
Dollar	6	29			
Stirling	10	39			

No. 12.—PERTH TO DUNDEE.

Inchture	14		Inchyra	5	
Longforgan . . .	3	17	Errol	4	9
Conf. of County	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	19 $\frac{1}{4}$	Powgavie	4	13
Dundee	3	22 $\frac{1}{4}$	Dundee	8	21

COACHES FROM PERTH.

GEORGE AND STAR HOTELS.

- To Edinburgh... Mail, half an hour after midnight.
Coburg, (via Queensferry) quarter before 9 A.M.
- To Glasgow..... Mail, (via Crieff) a quarter before 1 A.M.
New Times, (via Auchterarder) a quarter before 9 A.M.
- To Aberdeen.... Mail, (via Dundee) 9 P.M.
New Times, (do.) 7 A.M.
- To Inverness.... Mail, 9 A.M.
- To Kirkaldy..... Fife Defiance, half past 1 P.M.
- To Dundee..... Mail and New Times, as above.
Fair Maid, at 4 P.M.

SALUTATION HOTEL.

- To Edinburgh... Mail, a quarter before 11 A.M.
Defiance, 3 P.M.
- To Aberdeen..... Do. half-past 11 A.M.
- To Dunkeld.... Duchess of Atholl, half-past 4 P.M. every day in summer, three times a week in winter.
William the Fourth, 7 A.M. (discontinued in winter.)

No. 29, SOUTH STREET.

- To Glasgow..... Champion, half-past 7 A.M.

During the summer months, Coaches also run daily between Perth and Atholl, Kenmore, Killin, &c.

